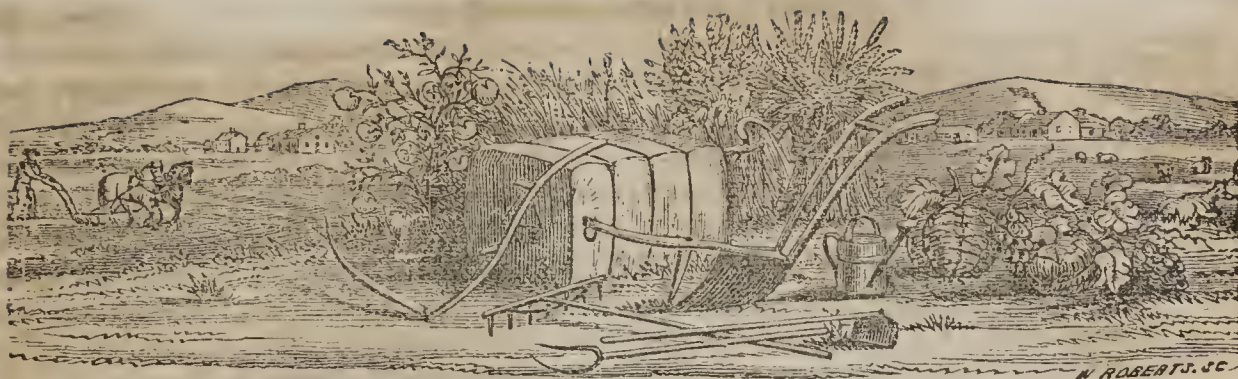


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THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic and Rural Economy.

Vol. VI.

PENDLETON, S. C., OCTOBER, 1855.

No. X.

The Farmer and Planter

Is issued monthly at Pendleton, S. C.,

BY GEORGE SEABORN,

Editor and Proprietor.

S. W. LEWIS, Publisher.

TERMS.

1 copy, one year (<i>invariably in advance</i>)	\$1 00.
6 copies one year	5 00.
25 copies one year	20 00.
100 copies one year	75 00.

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GOOD ADVICE.—The Albany (N. Y.) Knickerbocker, says :

"The best cure for hard times is economy. A shilling's worth of white beans will do as much feeding as fifty cents' worth of potatoes; while six cents' worth of Indian meal will make as much bread as fourteen cents' worth of flour. Besides this, it is twice as wholesome. Almost every family in town could cut down their expenses one-half if they only chose to do so."

For the Farmer and Planter.

On Growing and Preserving Wheat.

MR. EDITOR.—The article in the August No. of the Farmer and Planter, by T. M. S., on Wheat Houses, prompts me to execute an oft-deferred purpose of contributing something to its columns. I have been a subscriber from its origin; and for the great amount of useful information which I have received through its pages from my co-subscribers, I have, hitherto, made no return. This is my apology (if apology be needed), for troubling you at this time.

The importance of enlarging the wheat crop of the planting States, for the purpose, both of diversifying our crops and preserving our soil, is generally conceded and an attempt to promote this great end, will, I am sure, be favorably received. The superiority of the wheat grown in the Southern States, is an established fact—established by chemical analysis, as well as by the palate. This superiority is due to the greater percentage of gluten which it yields over that grown in more Northern latitudes.—This difference is not restricted to the United States but exists also in Europe. The richer sorts of pastry, such as macarona &c. can only be made there from wheat grown on the shores of the Mediterranean. Prof. Beck, in the Patent Office Report, (1848, p. 257.) says, "the Sicilian and Southern wheat generally contains a larger proportion of gluten than that from more northern countries." In an analysis of flour from Georgia wheat, he found 14, 36 per cent, whilst from northern and north-western wheat, he found, generally, from 9 to 12 per. cent. Johnston, in his Agricultural chemistry, says the average proportion of gluten in

English wheat is not above 10 per cent. The superior richness, of southern wheat is probably due, not so much to soil as to the greater degree of heat and light where it is grown.—Prof. Beck again says; of all the cereal, it is that which requires the most heat, and its culture first begins to be of importance below 60° north latitude in Europe, and considerably below that line on our continent.” The planting states would, long ago, have been distinguished for their wheat if cotton had not reigned supreme. In the older of these states, our soil is now run down; and we shall find, I am persuaded, wheat to be one of our most profitable recuperative crops. It will protect it from washing, and from the roasting summers sun; two of the most fruitful causes of its deterioration. We ought, at least, to make what we consume, and not import an inferior article from a great distance and at a heavier cost. The Hessian Fly, the rust, and the weevil are the chief impediments in our way. The fly and rust according to my limited experience, may be avoided by the time and manner of sowing.—In this latitude, 31½° I sow the last week in November, or first in December. I have seen fields sown in October, wholly ruined with the fly, whilst those sown in the same season and neighborhood, as above indicated, escaped entirely. The object is, to wait until there have been some hard frosts, and until something like permanent cold weather has set in. The time must of course vary, somewhat, with the latitude, and the peculiarities of the season. My manner of sowing, is to take advantage of some period in November when the land is in good order, and break deeply and thoroughly with bull-tongues, or scooters; and when the time of sowing arrives, to scatter evenly, thirty bushels of cotton seed and one bushel of wheat per acre, and cross plough with bull-tongues again, and immediately to level the surface with a brush-harrow. The cotton seed ought to be killed, as when a warm spell follows, they are liable to come up. The seed may be speedily killed by distributing them on the field, in small heaps of three or four bushels, and covering them with the moist soil. There is also an advantage in this method, as the fertilizing gasses from the decomposing manure that would otherwise escape and be lost, are absorbed and saved. One of the chief objects in manuring with cotton seed is, to make amends for the late sowing, and to force the crop to early maturity in the spring that it may escape the rust. By this method I make from 12 to 15 bushels per acre of the common red wheat of

the country; and, for several years past, have escaped the fly entirely, and have had the rust but slightly. With care in providing myself with an earlier ripening variety, I believe my success might have been more complete. The difficulty and trouble of protecting wheat from the depredation of the weevil after it is made, has operated as a great discouragement to the growing of it in the South. Your Contributor, T. H. S. and all who try his wheat house, will, I fear, be disappointed. I have known such houses (substantially) occasionally tried for many years past; and, as far as I am informed, generally with unsatisfactory results. My father once built one, on an occasion when he found he was making an unusually fine crop of wheat. Being a new thing with him at the time, he attended to it diligently; and it turned out to be a perfect *weevil factory*. Before the year was out, his wheat was ear up to dust and bran, although, on every fair day, he had it exposed to the sun, and a sturdy hand lost much time in stirring it thoroughly with a spade. Of all the remedies for the weevil, *sunning* is that which has always been most relied upon; and as usually practiced, is attended with partial success. When the grain is exposed to the sun in a thin layer upon sheets, the insects crawl away in search of shade and a hiding-place, intending, no doubt, to return under more favorable auspices. In the meantime, however, the grain is returned to the bins, and only a few of this brood even find their way to it again. But not so in the case of a wheat-house. Here, the surface only of a large bulk is exposed, and the insects have only to dive into it to find the shade and shelter which they seek. I presume, you will perceive, what I suppose will not be denied, namely: that the heat of the sun does not kill the weevil but only disperses them. This being admitted, it is easy to understand the cause of failure in wheat houses. Only a small proportion of the grain can at any one time be subjected to the direct action of the sun; and, by frequent stirring, light and air are admitted, and such a comfortable temperature given to the whole bulk as promotes in the highest degree the fecundity of these prolific creatures. I have tried for several years with encouraging success a plan of preserving wheat which consists, essentially, in excluding air and light. This object is effected by storing it in a Cache (Kash) or pit dug in the earth. I was led to try this method, partly from theoretical considerations, and in part from having learned, when I was a boy, from “Riley’s Narrative,” that the Moors.

in Northern Africa kept their grain in this way. The Cache may be of any size to suit the wants or fancy of the owner. Mine is about seven feet square and seven feet deep, dug in a hard dry clay soil, plastered with Roman cement like a water cistern, and covered on a level with the surface of the land, with a floor of tongue-and-grooved boards. A nicely fitting trap-door, about two feet square, is constructed in the centre of this floor. A small house is built over it to protect it against the weather. My practice is, to thresh out my wheat early, dry it well in the sun and store it immediately in the Cache, which is then covered over to the depth of a foot with the waste earth that came out of it. For the first two seasons the grain became damp; and, at length, sprouted when it was in contact with the walls. Conjecturing that this moisture originated from exudation and not from deposition, I gave the floor and walls a substantial coat of pitch, first drying them well, by letting down a tray of coals; since which time, the grain has kept perfectly dry. A few weevils are generally found when the Cache is opened, but the grain has not been injured to an appreciable extent. I have sound, dry wheat in it at this time, of the crop of '54, which makes as good flour as that of the present crop.

Excuse the length of this article. I could make it no shorter without the risk of being obscure. I will not undertake to say, that the plan here detailed of growing and preserving wheat will succeed with others and under all circumstances. I only relate the facts, and leave it to every one to place his own estimate upon their value.

Respectfully yours, L. B. MERCER.
Chenuba, Lee Co. Geo. Aug. 21st. 1855

For the Farmer and Planter.

Should a Planter buy or raise His own Pork.

MR. EDITOR:—Enclosed I send you one dollar for the present year, and I know I ought to have sent it before, but can give no other excuse than negligence. In reading your paper, I often feel that it would afford me much pleasure, if my mental powers were some stronger, that I might give my views upon different subjects. It would afford me much pleasure if I could become acquainted with "Piney Woods," as I think he might give me some valuable lessons in hog raising. I think every planter ought to raise his own bacon, for his plantation use; don't understand me, Mr. Editor, that I think a man ought to use no more than he raises, for some don't raise more than enough for his family use; but I think we ought to raise enough to

give a plenty to our negroes, say three pounds per week, a piece at least; but, Mr. Editor, can a man do this without affecting his cotton crop materially; can't he buy the amount cheaper than he can raise it. I would like to hear from some old planters with regard to this. I am a cotton planter, of Barnwell District, and a young one, but my experience has been this far that a man who is a cotton planter has very little time to devote to raising hogs, wheat or any thing else, but enough corn for plantation purposes. I would like to know from "Piney Woods" how many hogs he fattens on fourteen acres corn and hog pea, and four acres each of pinders, and potatoes, and also how much corn he feeds away in the year; how much cotton he makes to the hand. I would be very glad to get the hog pea from "Piney Woods."

Yours in haste,

RIVER SWAMP.

From the Soil of the South..

Effects of Feeding Stock Upon the Corn Field Pea.

MR. EDITOR:—I have read with much pleasure the observations of Mr. Edmund Ruffin, in your May number of the *Soil of the South*, upon "the facts and causes of injury to animals from eating peas," and by your editorial invitation, I will offer you my experience upon the same subject, although I have not lost the first animal from the effects of the cornfield pea.

I perhaps had better premise, by saying to you that I am a young planter, not having planted but five years. When I commenced planting, I sought all the agricultural information that I could get, by books, agricultural papers and information from persons that I knew to be experienced upon the subject upon which I sought information. I became the subscriber to seven different agricultural papers, and for fear some old *anti-book* farmer may ask why take so many papers, I will say that I did so for the purpose of having the experience of others upon the various subjects connected with "practical husbandry" and to apply that experience, according to my judgment, to my own farm; as I am about to get off the subject I started upon, I will return to it.

I have cultivated the cornfield pea ever since I commenced farming, and have made pretty fair crops, and have never gathered only enough for seed and a few for the negroes and whites also—leaving the balance of the crop in the field to be pastured off by the stock. I plant my peas in the month of May among my corn, using principally the red or "Tory Pea," which pea will lay on and in the ground all the winter, and not rot or decay, and, at the proper season in the spring, come up. All other varieties of the pea, that I have tried, will rot after the first wet spell in the fall. I have this year, one field of corn containing one hundred and twenty-five acres, every acre of

which is already planted with the Tory Pea. I have four acres of ground peas and five acres of sweet potatoes; I also have a great many pumpkins planted in the same field. In the fall, when I gather my corn, I gather a few of the sweet potatoes—as many as all of the hands can use before frost and some few of the pumpkins for stock, &c. &c. Through this field passes a tolerable large stream of water which I consider indispensable. I place three or four troughs in which I constantly keep ashes sprinkled with salt. My hog feeder tells the hogs, turning them in near the stream of water, giving them just as much corn as they can or will eat. The hogs will first commence on the ground pea and potatoe patches, eating alternately of each, and it will be some two weeks or more (if the ground peas and potatoes are pretty good) before you will discover that they have touched the “Tory Pea.” Now and then you will see where they have taken a few mouthfulls out of a pumpkin. I keep the hogs on this field until I gather the adjoined field of corn containing about one hundred and forty acres, which is also in peas. I have in this field, five acres of ground peas and five acres of sweet potatoes, with plenty of pumpkins and water. If it is the season for saving sweet potatoes, I gather and save all the large potatoes out of this field for winter use. I gather about twenty bushels of ground peas for seed the ensuing year. I gather as many pumpkins as I can well save and feed away before rotting. I also gather from this field whatever peas I may wish to save for use or sale. I then remove my troughs and keep ashes and salt in them as in the first field, and have the hogs turned in.

My horses, mules, cows, sheep and hogs are all indiscriminately turned in, but never hungry, always full, salted and near the water. I do not think that I have ever lost an animal from the effects of cornfield pea. But to the contrary all my animals come out fat and slick; particularly the hogs. And as the best evidence of this, I never have any bacon to buy, but every year have some fine hams to sell, for which I have never failed to obtain fifteen cents per pound. Any man can come to my smoke house now and see what a handsome lot of fine yellow bacon I have in it. He can then go to my hog lot when my hog-feeder blows his horn and see and count over two hundred hogs squealing for their daily allowance of corn. It is my opinion that if a hog is well fed in winter, and grows fat on corn, and then is neglected and not fed in the spring, and allowed to shift for himself on grass, nine out of every ten will die.

If every farmer will furnish his hogs with plenty of good sound grain of any kind, I have no hesitation in saying that he will raise an abundance of meat. But on the contrary, if he calculates to feed man or beast on unsound provisions, sickness and death will be the natural consequence.

This article is already spun out too long. I may hereafter write you on other subjects, according to my experience in “practical husbandry.”

MUSCOGEE.

From the Chester Standard.

Report.

Of Committee of the Fishing Creek Agricultural Society, on Fences.

MR. PRESIDENT: The Committee to whom was referred the subject of our present system of fencing, and the propriety of a change, beg leave to report that they have gone into an investigation of the subject, as far as their business engagements would allow, and after a careful examination are induced to lay before the Society the following statistics and suggestions as the result of their deliberations:

The area of Chester District comprises 384,000 acres of land: assuming that one half, or 192,000 acres is fenced for cultivation, and that 40 acres is the average size of the fields, at the very low estimate of 100 dollars per mile of fencing, the cost is 480,000 dollars; again assuming that this whole amount of fencing must be replaced every 15 years, the annual cost of keeping up the fencing in Chester District is 32,000, or nearly six times the State tax paid by the District.

Your committee are aware that the estimate of the first cost of fencing, made by them is placed very far below the estimates usually given, but we wish to give the subject that fair unbiassed consideration, which its magnitude demands, and we are induced to estimate below rather than above what would appear from a strict and minute cost of labor and material.

Having in common, with our fellow citizens at large, discovered the vital importance, of agricultural improvements in all its branches, we pause to inquire what are the benefits accruing to agriculture from this vast outlay for the purpose of keeping up the old system of fencing.

In the early settlement of the country, when the present statutory provisions were enacted with regard to stock and fencing, they were wise and expedient, large tracks of country were covered over with nutritious grasses, well adapted to the sustenance of large herds of cattle, and any conceivable amount of stock; settlements were sparse, and fields of cultivated land limited in size and not very numerous; in a word there were a vast preponderance of wild uncultivated land, available alone at that time as a pasturage for stock, and the whole community could avail themselves of its advantages, without trespassing on, or materially affecting, the rights of any one.

At that time, too, material for fencing was much more abundant than it is at present, and it required very little additional labor to that requisite to clear the land, to fence it with the best material.

But the situation of the country, is now vastly different the range, as far as the grasses are concerned, has long since disappeared. Whole tracks of country, then uncultivated and wild, have been reduced to a state of cultivation, and there is absolutely no outside range but the beaten highway and well trimmed fence corners, and the only advantages that stock can profitably derive from our present system is the gleanings by our hogs, of the harvest fields, and picking up the mast, in the very small remaining

bodies of woodland.

Under the present system, our fields are exposed to herds of hungry cattle impelled by the goadings of an empty maw to commit their depredations, and if they break in and destroy our crops, we are left without redress *practically*, as the records of our courts will show, our laws presenting the anomaly of protecting the trespasser, of mulcting the injured in heavy damages.

It has become the fruitful source of quarrels and estrangement amongst neighbors, engendering broils and difficulties, frequently involving the parties in expensive and unprofitable litigation.

Upon an investigation of the subject your committee recommended a change, a thorough and radical change, by causing the owner to become responsible for the trespass of his stock, compelling him to keep them enclosed and permitting those who wish to do so, to turn their cultivated fields at large protected by the broad *Aegis* of the law, instead of precarious fencing.

We are satisfied the advantages resulting from the change would commend it to the community at large, and agriculture receive an onward impetus under its operation.

First, The expense and labor of keeping up our fences would be diminished to one-fourth or less of what it at present requires. The amount of stock, per capita would be greatly reduced, a good stock substituted for an inferior one, would be better pastured in summer and better cared for in winter. Our uncultivated lands would be covered with weeds and grass, and by a natural process become more fertile, without the labor and expense of manuring. Our remaining timbered lands would be preserved, adding greatly to their value—ornamenting the country and conducing to our health and comfort.

A fruitful source of strife and contention amongst neighbors would be cut off, many expensive and vexatious lawsuits avoided, and leave the trespasser to pay the damages.

In view of the radical nature and great importance of the change recommended. Your committee would not insist on bringing the subject before the Legislature at a very early day; the matter should be well considered and maturely deliberated on by the community at large, upon whom it is to act for weal or for woe, before it gets into the halls of Legislation.

We would recommend that this report be published in the *Chester Standard*, and copied by the papers in the State friendly to the cause of Agricultural improvement, to elicit discussion and to keep the matter before the people.

Bermuda Grass.

Our former remarks upon this grass, have elicited much inquiry, more than has been agreeable, where each inquirer propounded queries enough to occupy a day in answering!

The grass known in Southern Mississippi under this name, Bermuda Grass, is that known to botanists as *Cynodon dactylon*, and is undoubtedly the *Duob* or *Doob* grass of the Hindoos, their sacred grass, and is a native of the

valley of the Ganges. How it acquired its present local name, is not known, unless from having been introduced to South Carolina from Bermuda at an early day, or *supposed* to have been derived thence. *It never matures seed*, so far as known, in any of these Southern States; certainly not in these latitudes, but is propagated solely by scraps of sod or of roots. These, when cut thinly from a closely grazed pasture, may be tramped into a barrel or box, and will carry safely to a great distance, and go almost as far as ordinary grass seed in planting out. The ground should be put in thorough order; if for meadow, harrowed quite smooth after deep plowing, and rolled after planting if the soil is light. If for hill-side pasture, plow into horizontal ridges, and protect with guard-drains, and if very poor, apply a little manure in the rows before planting. A very small scrap of sod, or a few joints and root, planted shallow at short distance, say in squares of 2 to 3 feet, will quickly cover the ground.

This grass is *an abominable pest* in the crops, yet its value for meadow and for pasture is so vastly greater than of *any* other known as yet to us, for these latitudes that it richly repays all the risk and trouble. Devote a piece of rich bottom land to meadow and surround it with a hedge of Cherokee Rose. *It will not pass that hedge*. Shade destroys it. And for pasture, select your poorest worn and washed hills; or nooks of creek bottom occasionally overflowed. A smothering crop of corn and pumpkins, or corn and peas, will so far check its growth on tolerably good land or where a liberal application of guano or cotton seed is made to the crop, as to admit of a crop or two of cotton being taken. But it compels, most excitingly, a rotation of crops. No known plant will improve land so rapidly when only grazed and that not too closely.

As a pasture grass, it far excels the famed Blue grass of Kentucky or Musquit grass Texas four to one as a summer pasture and two to one as a winter pasture. But, for the latter, nothing should be allowed to graze upon after the first of August, or even first of June would be better.

For hay-making, we unhesitatingly state that it will yield more than double, if not quadruple, the return of sound, nutritious hay, to any other grass yet known to the farming world. And now that machinery or horse power can be applied to the entire process of mowing, tedding, pressing, etc., no crop grown in this country will equal or approach it in cash return to the acre or hand. For this, however, the richest bottom land on a navigable stream would be requisite, and also good annual top-dressings with guano, or rich and fine composts or waterings with a solution of guano, and occasional cutting and rolling being necessary.

Having been thus explicit, we trust inquirers will look, and try and judge for themselves; merely adding the assurance that we have stated what we know and believe.

[*T. Afflick's Southern Rural Almanac.*]

There is a luxury in remembering a kind act.

From the Southern Planter.

Compacting soils.

GEO. C. GILMER, ESQ.—DEAR SIR:—In the May number of the Southern Planter I notice an article headed, "A failure in a stand of grass and a reason for it asked." As the Editor of the Planter says, "he does not think the history of your case is given with sufficient minuteness for him to give an opinion," I have concluded to give you some of my crude notions in reference to it, and of agriculture, which I have acquired by many years of observation and experience in farming.

It has been my fate to cultivate, for the most of my mansion farm, a purely argillaceous soil, which I regard as the most difficult of all soils to cultivate successfully, as it is rarely more than two or three days at a time in proper condition for the plough and harrow.

While I am an advocate for moderately deep ploughing, where the subsoil is of such character, when thrown up as to improve the surface soil, yet unless deep ploughing is succeeded by heavy and drenching rains, to dissolve the clods and condense the ground again into its almost natural condition, before the grain sown upon it vegetates, it will prove a disadvantage to the crop, and more especially with plants which derive their nourishment from near the surface, such as timothy, turnips, &c., with fine fibrous roots. I will give you some illustrations of the effect of pulverizing and condensing the soil: observe where the horses in the plough are turned round upon the ploughed ground in finishing a land: it becomes pulverized and condensed, and you invariably see the wheat and corn upon those spots first up, grow off rapidly and most productive. and have you not observed that where seeds accidentally fall in the small walks, made in the beds in gardens, that they are up sooner than those planted in the loose, mellow soil of the bed? It was my practice, in farming, to require the coverer of the corn to put but little earth upon it (mind you, an argillaceous soil) and to tread upon the hill as he passed to the next, to condense the earth upon it. Do you ask the reason? Unless done so the corn would not vegetate and come up until the hill became condensed by a heavy rain. In my first year's essay in farming my corn was from three to four weeks in coming up in consequence of being covered too deeply and want of condensing rain; this evil does not exist in light, loamy soils.

I will give you a history of several occurrences in my county. My neighbor, Mr. C., who is an experimental farmer, conceived the idea that if great depth of pulverized soil was given to corn for the roots to penetrate horizontally and at pleasure, that an extra yield might be grown upon almost any soil; and by way of testing his theory he caused a small field to be ploughed up, extra deep; afterward being well pulverized with the harrow, he had two furrows thrown together forming a ridge of a foot or more, in width at top, upon which the corn was planted, there being 15 to 18 inches of mellow pulverized soil beneath for the corn roots to flourish in, as he said. What do

you suppose to be the result? first, it was an extra long time in coming up; when up it was a yellow, sickly looking specimen of vegetation; the usual cultivation was given it; the stock never attained more than three or four feet in height, had a mere shoot but was minus the nubbin, and did not yield one peck to the acre.

Upon the land, some years thereafter, the same gentleman has grown sixty bushels to the acre under a different kind of cultivation, he now takes his oldest, stiff, soddy, grass fields, turns over the sod flat with a three horse plough and with a stick made in the form of an axe helve (but much larger) he causes a small opening to be made between the furrow slices every fourth row, drops his corn in the opening thus made, upon the solid earth, beneath the cut of the plough and kicks a little loose earth over the opening with the foot. The corn comes up vigorously, grows off, and as the vegetable matter contained in the sod decomposes, the lateral roots of the corn are nourished, kept moist and is not affected by the drouth, and an abundant yield of corn is invariably the result. He then puts the same field in corn again the succeeding year without breaking up; he simply checkers it in the interval of the previous crop, but puts a part of a shovel full of manure or compost made of cobs, leaves, chip dirt and every kind of vegetable matter which he can collect, into each hill, cultivates with scrapers and never fails, even in harvest, if a heavy rain should then occur, to stop every hand, and run through his corn with scrapers and cultivators. He argues that the mere surface of the ground must be kept in a loose, friable condition, an inch or two deep, to prevent the escape of moisture by capillary attraction, which he says arrises, during every night from the earth, even in the driest weather. I give you this as his doctrine.

On an adjoining farm, belonging to my neighbor R., which possesses an unusual quantity of bottom (or low land) for the size of the farm, say 70 to 80 acres, a large part of it is of calcareous character and had been in grass (God knows how long) and kept up by irrigation by its former owner, but was ploughed up by my neighbor R. and cultivated in corn and oats for many years. Finally, he determined to reset it in timothy, and said to me one day, about the first of August, (it was then on oat stubble,) that he intended to flush it up and sow it down in rye and timothy, and asked my opinion of the plan. I said to him, it wont do Captain, for the timothy, unless after you break it up and harrow it, you turn fifty or sixty head of your bullocks (he has an extensive grazier and feeder of cattle) and detail two of your servants to drive them over it continually for about two weeks to pulverize and condense it before you sow the timothy seed, if you want it to grow. He ridiculed the idea of ploughing up land and then tramping it hard again; he persued his own judgement in its preparation. The fall was somewhat dry and the result was a total failure of timothy, and but little rye. A similar cause produced the same result in your field: deep ploughing, dry fall and want of condensa-

tion. Whenever the atmospheric air can penetrate around and below the roots of any plant, it must die.

I will now give you a case of my own.—Some twelve or fifteen years ago on an adjoining farm of mine (slate land, the most part of it) I had occasion to have made a large number of rails and concluded to clear off a hollow (or drain) on the slate part of several acres (it abounded with large white oak trees and possessed a cold, potter's clay subsoil,) and put in timothy. It was very stumpy when cleared, with many large roots on and near the surface of the ground; so much so, that it was impossible to plough it, and I had the harrow tried upon it to loosen a little of the surface soil to receive the timothy seed, but soon found it useless to attempt to effect it in that way, and finally determined to sow the seed upon the naked, uncultivated earth. It had been previously well cleaned of all the chips, leaves and brush, &c., well burnt off. It was in the month of August; a rain pretty soon succeeded the sowing, the timothy vegetated, took root and the succeeding summer was well set, but did not grow sufficiently large to be mowed. The next summer it yielded me at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons to the acre, has been in timothy ever since and mowed every year, except when the field was in pasture, and at this moment presents a heavy timothy sod.

Now, Sir, I venture the assertion that there is not a square foot of soil, in Albermarle county let it be argillaceous, calcareous or silicious, so hard that the finest root of timothy, or any other vegetable root, will not penetrate it when made moist (wet) by the genial rains of heaven. And I repeat again, that deep or subsoil ploughing is only beneficial when you bring up a virgin soil, which is richer and will enrich the worn out surface soil by being well incorporated with it; that makes your land more productive; it is not the deep ploughing for the roots to flourish in that improves the crop.

I have at this time on one of my farms as pretty a stand of timothy, producing two tons to the acre, which was sown on the hard earth in the month of August, 1852, in a field then in corn, which had not been ploughed from June. I have repeatedly seen timothy grow off luxuriously in the dust of the wagon ruts of the public highway; ground cannot be too hard for timothy to vegetate and grow, if it is only clear of all other vegetation.

Trusting that this lengthy communication should not impart to you any new information upon the subject of farming, in which we all have a common interest, that you will not consider it officious, I am respectfully yours,

AN EX-FARMER.

Martinsburg, Barkley, Juve, 1853.

Turnips as Feed.

While in attendance upon the late National Poultry Show at Barnum's Museum, (says the Editor of *The Plow, the Loom and the Anvil*,) we spent a few minutes in the "Lecture Room." Our friend, Mr. Solon Robinson, was making remarks upon the use of turnips as feed, as reported in some of the journals of the day. He

took the position that they were good for nothing as nutriment, and sustained himself by giving its analysis. This is all very well, but unfortunately it is not in accordance with well-known facts. We used to talk in the same way, but were obliged to yield, not simply to a few doubtful experiments, but to years of experience. This the speaker seemed to feel, for he admitted that "in England it might not be so." But we suppose a turnip in England is very much the same thing as a turnip in New York. He also added that they should be fed by turning the cattle in upon them, as they are growing in the field. We can not see the force or propriety of this distinction. Is it not the same worthless thing before it is pulled, as afterwards? Must the cattle or sheep pull it, or bite it off, to render it nutritious? But even here there is no escape, for the English practice is, after the animal has bit off as much as is practicable, the root remaining in the ground is then lifted by a fork and left on the top of the ground, for the cattle to eat at pleasure.

We are compelled to admit there is something in this fact of nutrition, that no doctrine of chemistry or physiology is able to explain. The fact is unquestionable that turnips are excellent for fattening sheep and cattle, whether we can explain why it is so or not. It is equally true, as Mr. R. stated in the same speech, that about 97 per cent. of the flat turnip, as shown by a chemical analysis, consists of water. These two facts, so apparently contradictory, are entirely above and beyond contradiction. We subjoin the following, on this subject, which appears in the *Northern Farmer*:

"The vegetable I wish to recommend as the best, all things considered, for milk-cows in winter, is white flat turnips. Some, perhaps, will object to the turnip, because it will affect the taste of the milk and butter. So it does if fed raw; this can be avoided by boiling. For each cow boil a half a bushel of turnips; while hot, add five or six quarts of shorts; which will swell, and you will get the full worth of it. A mess like this fed to a cow once a day, will produce more milk of a good quality, than any other feed at the same cost. Turnips fed in this way do not taint either milk or butter. One thing in favor of turnips as food for cows, is, that they can be sown in August, or as late as the first of September. I sowed some as late as September, last year, which were very fine. Turnips are also very profitable feed for pigs, when boiled in the same way as for cows."

REMARKS.—We have fairly tested the value of Turnips the past winter, and must add our testimony to the above. We do not know of any winter food for cattle in this climate so economical and valuable.—EDS. SOUTH. CUL.

CHOKED CATTLE.—There should be a tarred rope, say six feet long, and an inch and a quarter in diameter, with a ball, or swab, on one end, for the purpose of pushing down any substances, such as an apple or turnip, with which any of your cattle may chance to be choked.

The rope will be, if suitably twisted and tarred, sufficiently stiff for the purpose, and at

the same time it will be somewhat yielding, so as to accommodate itself to the crooks of the passage, if the animal should choose to turn its head during the operation.

Mr. Thaddeus Buzzell, of Wintrop informs us that he has sometimes relieved cattle that have been choked in this way. He goes upon the principle, that what goes in at the top of the gullet, will go out at the same orifice again, if it can have a power behind it to push it up. He accordingly, after finding the substance that has got stuck, and keeping his hands behind, or below it, pushes it up slowly, until it reaches the top of the gullet where it went in. Placing his left hand below it, he retains it in that situation firmly. With his right hand he seizes hold of the throat, and gives it a sudden "jar" downward, says he, toward the brisket, and out flies the *plug*, like the *wad* to a popgun.

The principle is a good one to operate upon, and we doubt not will often succeed.

[Maine Farmer.]

Fish-Ponds.

THEIR CONSTRUCTION AND USEFULNESS.

The utter indifference displayed by a vast majority of our farmers and planters to those means which tend to embellish and render attractive their homes, and add to the innocent enjoyment of their families, is inconceivable. How few are there supplied with an abundance of the finest fruit! And yet, what is the cost? A few hours in budding (as simple process as any in Agriculture,) and a little labor. They are all willing enough to rob a "bee tree," and that at the cost of five times the labor it would require to make a few boxes to hive and domesticate the bees in. They have all heard of, and known, or ought to know, the simple process of caponizing fowls; yet they are contented to sit down to a scrawny, stringy, skinny, chicken, instead of a fat, tender, luscious capon. He who dwells far inland may serve upon his table as fine fish as he who lives upon tide-water; but it would require some enterprise and little trouble—so he sticks to his hog and hominy to-day, hominy and hog to-morrow, from year's end to year's end.

Of fish and fish ponds it is our intention here to treat.

In Europe the fact is notorious that both the dove-cote and poultry-yard are far behind the fish-pond, both in the quality and quantity of their products, though far more expensive.

The first mention of fish ponds in history is among the Romans; their invention is attributed to Murena. Those of Cato the ancient were immense, and the fish were regularly fed and fattened for consumption. We have an account of the ponds of Hortensius, of Lucullus and Cæsar, but they were on a scale that required to form them the wealth of the most powerful men in a nation that had seized the riches of the world. Lucullus severed a mountain that he might conduct an arm of the sea to his reservoirs; hence (as Pliny tells us) the great Pompey called him the Roman Xerxes.

A species of fish called the Lamprey was, it appears, held in the highest esteem for its delicacy.

History has transmitted to us the name of Vedino Pollio, who had the hideous fantasy to feed his large lampreys on living slaves.

Fish were tamed and came at the call of their feeders. The orator Hortensius shed tears at the death of one of his lampreys, and his heiress Antonia decked a favorite fish of hers in gold rings, and became an object of great curiosity in the neighborhood.

They had too, their ponds for oysters, that were brought from immense distance. But enough of this that is merely curious, and let us turn to the practical.

The pond should, if possible, be near a spring, and thence derive its supply of water; those upon larger streams are liable to be swept away by freshets. The lot in which the pond is situated should be kept permanently in grass; otherwise the water at every rain is liable to become muddy, and the pond to fill up from the washing of the soil. To construct the dam commence by sinking a ditch (until you reach the solid subsoil) four feet wide, and in the center of the place to be occupied by the dam; the earth thrown out to be laid out on each side. This ditch is to be gradually filled with clay, a little at a time, and that to be kept moist and well pounded. This wall (as it were) of clay to be carried quite to the top of the dam, and will form what is called the key. The dam should always be three times as wide at the base as it is high, and its width at top should equal its height. The more gentle the slope from the top of the dam each way, the greater its strength. Trees and shrubs should never be planted upon it, as the decay of their roots is liable to let the water through. The stream running from the pond might in many locations be turned to good account, either as water-power for the minor domestic purposes, such as forcing water, churning, &c., or for irrigation.

In Europe their fish-ponds are usually stocked with the earp, tench and pike, but we have a fish that is worth them all, and that is the James River of North Carolina *chub*. We find it hard to say how we like him best—fighting gamely for his life (as he always does) at the end of a line, or smoking on the board with "sauce and fixins a *lay Guy*." Your old Baltimore friend, unexcelled if not unequalled in his profession. How could he be otherwise, growing up under the eye of your order old friend KING DAVID?

Now that the land is webbed over with railroads, there can be but little difficulty, in getting this noble fish anywhere. Doctor Thornton, of Rappahannock, Virginia, ranks it next to the salmon. He has succeeded perfectly in transporting them alive over eighty miles of bad road, at the speed of ordinary road-wagons. There is no fish that will thrive better; even in small ponds they sometimes attain 15 pounds in weight; and though last, not least young wade Hampton, (than whom there is no better authority) says it's a crack sporting fish! F. G. S.

The name *tulip* is derived from the Turkish, and the flower is so called from its fancied resemblance to a turban.

Different Kinds of Food for Soiling.

Wheat and Rye.—The earliest food which can be depended upon in the spring, (Except Barley, Ed. F. & P.) for soiling, is wheat or rye.—We much prefer the former, as it is sweeter and more nutritious; nor does the straw become tough and harsh so soon as rye; it consequently lasts longer.

Cultivation.—If the ground be not already rich, it should be made so. It cannot be made too rich for this purpose. Plow deep, harrow fine and then roll. Now take an extra quantity of seed, and sow broadcast, as early as the last of August or the first week in September. Plow this in, about three inches deep with a three-furrow plow; leave the land in its rough state, without harrowing or rolling. By using an extra quantity of seed, the stalks grow finer, sweeter, and more tender; and by leaving the land rough, the plant is not so likely to winter-kill. Plowing in the seed has further advantage; the plant strikes a deeper root, and consequently grows stronger than if lightly harrowed in; it also comes up in rows, as if drilled which gives the air a much better opportunity to circulate among the stalks; thus promoting a more rapid and better growth. However rank the grain may grow in the fall, it is not advisable to feed it off in the slightest degree, except in a southern climate. North, the grain requires all of its fall growth to protect it during the winter, and insure a vigorous and rapid start in the spring.

Orchard Grass, Lucerne, Ray Grass, and Clover.—These grasses come forward first in spring in the order mentioned, although they ripen for hay about the same time. In a very early season, we have had orchard grass in a dry, warm, rich soil, two feet high, and fit for soiling in the latitude of 40 degrees 30 minutes, by the last of April: it however cannot generally be depended upon in this latitude before the last of May.

Cultivation.—For Orchard and Ray grass, the land must be rich, clean, and pulverized. Sow each kind by itself, at the rate of at least two bushels of seed per acre, early in the fall or spring, then harrow and roll. Neither clover nor other seed should be sown with these grasses; and it is important that the seed be sown thick; otherwise it will come up in tufts, and in a few years be almost entirely rooted out by other grasses. The yield is very large when properly cultivated. We have taken upwards of three tons per acre of well-cured hay of the former. For hay, neither of these grasses is quite so good as timothy, herdsgrass or red top. This ray grass must not be confounded with rye grass nor oat grass. It is much superior to either, and makes the finest and best of lawns for our country. It is now in great request in this vicinity for the purpose of soiling.

Clover should be sown the last of February, or early in March, just after a fall of snow, if possible, at the rate of ten to sixteen pounds of seed per acre, at least. Whenever there is frost upon it, especially in the spring, not a hoof should be allowed to cross or nibble it till the sun has dried off the frost. We have seen

a small flock of sheep ruin a whole field in a single hour, by pasturing it on a frosty morning.

The cultivation of lucerne is attended with too much trouble to find favor at the high price of labor in the United States. It requires a very rich, deep warm soil, prepared in the best manner. Sow fifteen to twenty pounds of seed per acre, in drills nine to eighteen inches apart, the last of April or the first of May, in this climate. Hoe it well during the summer, and keep it clear of weeds; otherwise they will check its growth, or almost entirely kill it. The following year, it may be cut several times during the season of its growth. After each cutting, liquid manure, or a light rich compost spread over it, is very valuable.

Indian Corn.—By sowing the earlier varieties for the first sowings, this may be had from the fore part of July till late in November. The proper time for cutting corn for soiling, is when the ear is well set on the stalk, and the grain is in milk. If cut before this, it is apt to scour the stock, and it is not so nutritious for them.

Cultivation.—Plow very deep—subsoil if possible—you cannot make the land too rich. Sow the earlier varieties in drills from twelve to eighteen inches apart; the latter from eighteen to thirty inches; keep the ground clear of weeds, either by the hand cultivator or hoes. To sow in drills is far better than broadcast, as the air then circulates freely among the stalks and makes a much healthier and better growth. The varieties of sweet corn are decidedly superior for soiling as the stalks are sweeter and more nutritious. Not so great a growth of stalks, perhaps, can be got per acre; but the superior quality of the stalks and ears more than compensates for the deficiency in quantity.

Millet.—Prepare the ground as for orchard grass, and sow broadcast or in drills six inches apart, from the last of April to the first of July. It may be harrowed, or plowed in like wheat, only not so deep by one inch. It should be cut for soiling when the stalks are in flower or just as it is going out of flower.

Oats and Buckwheat.—Sow and cultivate the same as millet.

There are other grains and grasses which may be profitable cultivated for soiling, but the above are the most important.

Of pumpkins, cymilins, squashes, sugar beets, and other roots which ripen in the fall, we shall not at present speak, as it would make this article too long.

Treatment of Stock under the Soiling System.—Stock, when soiled, should have a free range of a few acres at least. Exercise in the open air, the greater part of the day, is essential to their good health and thrift. Their food may be thrown in small bundles on the clean grass ground; but a better manner for feeding is, to place the food in common hay ricks, standing on legs two or three feet from the ground. There is much less waste by adopting this method. If fed on stalks, the corn stalks are better cut up fine before feeding, in a machine made expressly for this purpose. Every par-

tiele of them will then be consumed with avidity.

Green food should always be given fresh cut; if allowed to lie a few hours, and become half wilted, it is injurious to stock, causing disease, and sometimes death. Be very careful not to feed too much at a time, otherwise it may produce bloat. If soiled entirely, stock ought to be fed five times a day.—*Am. Agriculturist*.

Ground Food for Stock.

Few persons seem to be aware of the importance of grinding every variety of grain before feeding it to animals. In fattening any kind of animal, it is all important. There is no animal's stomach that can digest any variety of grain with a cortical covering. All animals that swallow a single kernel without crushing, void it whole; and what is singular after passing the ordeal of the gastric juice, the heat and digestive organs of the stomach and the whole intestinal canal, the seed will still germinate and grow. Horned cattle are not careful chewers of their food, as they depend upon rumination to comminute their food properly, in which grain, meal and roots, are never brought up to undergo that process.

The hog is a notorious gormandiser, and scarcely chews at all; and it is said of three hogs confined in a narrow stall, and only the first one fed what corn he can eat, the middle one will fatten fastest, and the last one keep in good order. The horse masticates better, but age and hard fare often disable him from performing such duty as is required to render his food fit to produce the nutriment it contains.

The stomach is a macerating vessel where all the food is intended to be dissolved, and its nutritious parts to be taken up and carried to the blood, to be distributed and deposited on all the tissues. The period that all particles take in dissolving, is exactly in proportion to their bulk. A cube of salt or of loaf sugar, if divided in two, will dissolve in water in half the time it would whole; as will metals in acids, or ice in the sun.

In every point of view, therefore, either for profitable expenditure or speedy fattening of animals the grinding and comminuting the food has nearly one half the advantage over the ordinary process; and, if cooked, saves the stomach and its complicated organs and nerves, the exertion of cooking it there—as cooked, it has to be, before digestion. It is the opinion of close observers that fully one half the expense of sustaining and fattening is saved.

In feeding horses and cattle for simply carrying them through the winter, if what grain they are entitled to was ground and the hay or straw cut, mixed and properly moistened, the saving would amount to quite an item—every inch of hay or straw will be eaten and nothing lost. Two-thirds the quantity now fed in racks for the horses to pull under their feet, and that fed to cattle on the ground, and trodden down and spoiled, would suffice to carry stock through the winter. But habit is everything; it is stronger than the ties of family affection, the good-will and confidence of the world, or the hope of salvation, as is evinced by the inebri-

ate—and it holds good in all the duties and actions of life. If we had been habituated from our youth to cut, cook and prepare food for our valuable animals, the most beneficent gifts of the Creator, should we not look with astonishment at the practice of waste and mismanagement now in general use!

In England, where necessity teaches people wisdom—where ten to twenty dollars rent is paid for an acre of land—they manage things differently. In that country, where the best work horses in the world are kept and the fattest animals are sent to market, every particle of food is cut and ground; and horse's food often baked into loaves. Their experience has settled the most economical process and necessity enforces it. Our whole system of feeding is wrong. The under-cover stall feeding is the only true one, both as respects the saving of provender, the comfort of the animals, and the value of the manure.—*Rural New Yorker*.

Seeding Thick or Thin.

The following from one of our foreign exchanges, contains assertions, which will be rather startling to many farmers here, where thick sowing is generally adopted and preferred.

Experiments on a small scale to test their truth should be made the coming fall, and next spring.

“Repeated experiments have proved that the capabilities of grains of corn, whether Wheat Barley or Orts are only to be known by planting early, thinly and singly; and in order for the full development of each grain, whether on poor or rich soils, it requires to be planted at least 3 feet apart square. Although the notion of planting at this extreme distance may be ridiculed and pronounced illogical by thick seeders, yet we contend that by judicious management on good and well prepared soils, and by planting early in September, each plant of Wheat thus treated will invariably not fail to produce 4000-fold, and half a pint of selected seed is thus sufficient to plant 1 acre, and as a natural consequence, it is, of course, quite possible to obtain a produce of 4000 half pints, equal to 31 bushels, and 1 peck per acre, quite equal to the average yield of the United Kingdom, from the opposite extreme and ordinary practice of sowing 256 half pints, or 2 bushels of seed, and sometimes more to the acre.—Anomalous as this may appear, yet it is certain, and defies irrefragable evidence to prove the contrary, that whilst 4000-fold is thus obtainable from a half pint of seed, not 30-fold is nor can possibly be obtained from a full crop of 256 times the quantity, by reason of its extreme thickness; for, were it so, 30 times 2 bushels would be the average yield, viz., 60 bushels per acre! If our agricultural friends will take the trouble to plant, or thin small plots of their wheat to about 6 inches by 12 apart, or about 18 plants to the square yard (the distance we believe proper for obtaining the fullest crops) their expectations will be fully realized. As the season is now too far advanced to prove the correctness of this statement on Wheat crops, if not already done, we do trust that some un-

prejudiced farmers will take the trouble to plant, transplant, or thin singly, about a rod at least of their Barley or Oats crops, in the middle of their fields, when it has been up about a fortnight, and afterwards keep it clean by hoeing it deeply with a hack hoe; then all their doubt of the reasonableness of this expostulation will be removed.

[Hardy & Son, Seed Growers, Maldon, Essex.]

Turnip Seed from the Patent Office.

The following article on Turnip Culture, and the proper time to sow in different States should have appeared earlier, we publish it now however for future reference.

We have received for distribution, by the politeness of Dr. Elwyn, several packages of turnip seed forwarded to him from the Patent Office; and also a large package of the same kind of seeds from the Commissioner of Patents, which we will take great pleasure in distributing to our friends who may apply while the stock holds out. We copy in this connection the circular of Mr. Mason, Commissioner of Patents, and a list of the varieties:

MODE OF CONDUCTING THE EXPERIMENTS.

1. The varieties known as Swedes or Ruta-Bagas may be sown or planted in drills or ridges twenty-five inches apart, and a foot asunder along the drills, in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Washington Territory, and Oregon, from the middle of June to the 20th of July; in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, from the 20th of July to the 1st of August; in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Utah and California, from the 1st of August to the 20th of September; and even later in the more Southern States. The ground should be rich, dry, and well prepared, and the Plants hoed at least twice in course of the season.

2. The other varieties of seed may be sown broadcast, in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Washington Territory, and Oregon, from the 15th of July to the 1st of August; in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, from the 1st to the 20th of August; in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, and California, from the 1st of October to the last of November, and in the more Southern States, any time during the winter. The land most suitable should be a light sandy or gravelly loam, freshly manured if necessary, with well rotted farmyard dung, or "folded" or "yarded" by cattle or sheep, or by the addition of guano, bone-dust, or by superphosphate of lime. Land newly cleared or burnt over, or old pasture ground ploughed two or three times in the course of the summer,

and the latter fertilized by wood ashes, will often produce an excellent yield. The sowing should always be done if possible just before the rain; for the escape from the fly and the success of the crop depends in a great measure upon the quick germination and a rapid growth at first.

The crops in no instance should be harvested until after the general fall of the leaf, or the occurrence of a heavy frost. A careful estimate of the quantity of roots and tops raised on a given space of ground may then be made by measurement or weight, which together with other circumstances connected with their growth, may be entered in a tabular form, and returned to this Office by mail.

CHARLES MASON,
Commissioner.

NAMES OF VARIETIES:—No. 1 Skirving's Swedish Turnip, 2 River's Stubble Swedish Turnip, 3 Laing's Swedish Turnip, 4 Green-topped Swedish Turnip, 5 Dab's Hybrid Turnip, 6 Green topped Six-week Turnip, 7 Snow Ball Turnip, 8 strap-leaved Turnip, 9 Small Yellow Malta Turnip, 10 White Globe or Norfolk Turnip, 11 Green Round or Norfolk Green Turnip, 12 Green Globe or Green Norfolk Turnip, 13 Golden Ball Turnip, 14 Red Globe or Norfolk Red Turnip, 15 White Tankard or Decanter Turnip, 16 Green Tankard or Decanter Turnip, 17 Yellow Tankard or Decanter Turnip, 18 Red Tankard or Decanter Turnip, 19 Green-topped Scotch Turnip, 20 Purple topped Scotch Turnip, 21 Skirving's Purple-topped Scotch Turnip, 22 Early Stone or Stubble Stone Turnip, 23 Yellow Stone Turnip, 24 Red-topped Stone Turnip, 25 White Dutch Turnip, 26 Yellow Dutch Turnip.

AGRICULTURAL DIVISION OF THE PATENT OFFICE.—*Plant lice on Grape Vines*:—We make an extract from a paper by Mr. Townsend Glover on the plant louse, to be published in the forthcoming agricultural report;—The plant louse (*Aphis*) is very destructive to young shoots and leaves of grape vines, as they suck out the sap by means of a piercer or trunk, and thus enfeebled the system of the plant, the natural history of these insects is similar to that of the cotton louse. Their natural enemies are also the same, as they are destroyed by the lady bird, the lace-wing fly, and syrphus. I must however, remark that the minute ichneumon fly which destroys the aphid on grape vines, differs essentially from that of the cotton louse, although its general form and habits are the same.

"When the vines are in small gardens the best remedy to destroy this pest would be to syringe the plants thoroughly, both on the upper and lower sides of the foliage, with a solution of whale oil soap. Dusting the leaves with lime has also been recommended, and in a green house these lice can be destroyed by a thorough fumigation with the smoke of tobacco.

The fireside educates more minds than the university.

For the Farmer and Planter.

Dogs.

MR. EDITOR:—You invite *all* your subscribers to make contributions to your paper, and as you seem to be in earnest, you will please accept this for mine, and bespeak all possible indulgence for it from your readers, as it comes from a correspondent who does not pretend to much agricultural knowledge, and does not expect much credit for any information he can impart; but he thinks he knows something about "dogs," and may venture safely to talk a little about them and their connection with the planting interests of the country.

If the naked facts were stated, that there is a branch of business by which a very large portion of the unproductive lands of this State could easily be made profitable with scarcely any labor or expense—by which the annual income of the people could be increased to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars—by which the poor would find an easy and ready relief, both in subsistence and employment—by which industry could find a new channel and labor be profitably diversified—by which the fertilizing materials of the planter could be increased to an amazing extent at the smallest possible cost—by which the Southern States could have an additional staple, and acquire new means of independence—and it were also stated that all this might be done, were it not for a single obstacle—the question would quickly be asked, What is it that so blocks up the path of planters to independence and comfort? Would it not be hard for a *sensible* man to have to reply, "It is a dog!" Would it not bring a blush to his face, that he should be compelled to say, that this creature of fleas and filth, in this land of intelligence and refinement—in this day of advancement and progress, should oppose himself successfully to the general prosperity of the country! Yet such is the fact, for he stands out confessedly, the most mischievous animal known to the planter since the days of bears and wolves. The comforts and amusements of this howling, mischievous tame-wolf, are allowed to block up man's progress, and the Lord of creation consents to adapt his business to the peculiar tastes and propensities of a dog! There was a time in the early history of this country, when the wolf followed his own legitimate calling, that the planters confederated to defend themselves. But now that the dog has taken up his vocation, he is allowed to follow it up in peace, and is protected by a kind owner in committing the very crimes for which the whole race of wolves has been

doomed to die. And when we look around for something by way of compensation for the destruction caused by them, we find little else but noise and fleas to make up for the enormous losses the country has to sustain on account of them. The negro, aping his master, must have his pets, also—and thus both whites and blacks, most patriotically raise up these nuisances to prey upon their neighborhoods, simply because they choose to indulge in the profitable business of playing with dogs. This, Mr. Editor, is such a monstrous imposition upon the people of this State, that I have chosen the "dog" as my theme, and shall briefly attempt to show the particular mischief complained of, and then suggest a remedy.

There is not a planter in the State, of such humble means that he could not keep as many as ten sheep—the average would be very much larger—and they would all do so if permitted by those lordly quadrupeds that make a living by sucking eggs and killing sheep; their other employments consisting in furnishing amusement for the idle moments of those who have never learned the value of time. The certainty of having them all destroyed, prevents thousands of industrious planters from keeping flocks adapted to their means; and thus, not only is their individual comfort materially lessened, but a source of income is shut out that might be made as profitable as any other. Although the sheep is so valuable for wool, flesh and fertility added to the soil, its costs little or nothing to raise and keep them. Any one who has ever tried it, knows the truth of this remark, and has felt how sore the grievance that nothing stands in his way in raising them but *dogs*. The country is overrun with them, and the only kind that ought to be tolerated, and are fewest in number, being those that are required for protection at night, and if valuable in that way, are also required to be confined in the daytime on account of their fierceness. The greatest number of them are of those kept for the chase where there is nothing to be chased, or as ornaments for the parlor, yard or streets, and consumers of what the poor are starving for. These do the mischief, and are of greater injury to the people of South Carolina than all the abolitionists in the world. If we were rid of them, it would be in the power of every planter to provide more easily for the subsistence of his family, and at the same time add to his income without ever feeling the expense.

Such being the mischief, what is the remedy. The easiest form would be for the leg-

islature to impose a tax upon them, and unless confined within the enclosures of their owners, make it justifiable dogicide for any one to take their lives, as *they* do those of the sheep, provided they be not found in the company of their owners or some member of his family. It is no difficult matter to confine a dog to the premises of his owner. It has been done by a great many, and could be done by all if they had a motive. If the well-being of the neighborhood is not a sufficient one, then the legislature can bring the matter nearer home by an appeal to the pocket in a form that will do as much for the treasury as would compensate the people for the mischief that would still be done, notwithstanding all the care that could be taken. If as useful a being as a negro can be taxed seventy-five cents, for the support of government, where can be the harm of taxing such a dangerous animal as a dog, to the extent of one dollar. If he be valuable as a protector, that sum would be very low; and if *not* valuable, the owner had best part with him as soon as possible. This will secure to the owner the protection of the dog, and the public the means of defending themselves against the possibility of mischief when allowed to range beyond the enclosure of his owner.

It has long been a desideratum with the planter to have some protection against this evil, but so far, none has been provided. This has been owing to several causes. One is, that very few legislators desire the notoriety of fighting against *dogs*, and their moral courage can't stand the imputation of conferring a lasting benefit upon the people, in the slightest degree, at their own expense. Another is, that popularity-seekers fear to deny to any one the privilege of doing all the mischief he pleases. Were it not for reasons like these, such a law would have been passed long ago, and it is to be hoped that they have had their influence long enough. It is time now that some true friend to his country, would dare to do what he ought to, and give the planters an opportunity to thank him for being their benefactor. The law proposed is the best that the writer can think of. Will the reader suggest a better? If not, let this be tried, and let hill and valley resound with the bleating of sheep instead of the barking of dogs. Sometimes there is a difficulty in the law-maker adapting his phrasology to the idea meant to be conveyed, and this has deterred many from attempting to carry out a good principle. That nothing may be lost without an effort, it may be suggested that an amendment to the bill to raise supplies in the follow-

ing form would answer the purpose: "One dollar upon each and every owner or occupant of a plantation or lot, as the case may be, per annum for each and every dog kept upon his premises by the owner or occupant as aforesaid, or permitted to be kept by others. And to carry out the further intention of allowing them to be despatched if found off such premises, it might be provided, "that all dogs hereafter found without the enclosures of their owners, and not within immediate presence, or of some white member of the family, should be considered as public nuisance, and may be destroyed, as such"—or something to that effect.

This is far enough to carry a chapter on "Dogs"—but the subject ought not to be dropped here. Could not the State Agricultural Society take it up, and ask of the legislature to make some provision of this kind? It would come with a good grace from that quarter, for they are planters, and know full well the necessity of having some remedy provided. It is to be hoped that they will prove in this way that they intend to be really useful, and not spend their time and money in making and giving away silver cups and pitchers.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have done—are you sorry that you extended so general an invitation? If so, you must take care next time how you throw out your net, for you see that you are liable to catch fish that you may not want, as well as others you are fishing for.

"MUTTON."

REMARKS.—Very far from being sorry, or repenting our general invitation for contributions, especially when we can have such dishes set before us as "Mutton" furnishes. We are, of all meats, most fond of mutton, and all of our readers are aware of our opposition to the dog mania that too generally prevails in the State. We have long thought that a tax on dogs would prove to be the best remedy for the evil.—ED.

For the Farmer and Planter.

"Do Peas injure Corn when Planted Together"—Again.

GEORGE SEABORN—*Dear Sir*:—Some times when reading your strong appeals to subscribers to contribute from their stores of knowledge, experience and observation, in order that the F. & P. may be made up of as much original matter as possible, I feel quite in the spirit of contributing my mite, but it usually ends without doing anything.

In your July number, the question is further discussed, whether "peas injure corn when planted together;" and I am reminded by it of what I saw in the spring of 1835: An old

man, a Mr. McMullen, living in Lowndes county, just above the Florid line, was noted for his success in raising corn. He was a small planter or farmer, working only two or three hands, and, of course, laboring, himself, with them; and having everything done in a neat and exact manner. I called on him about the middle of April, and found him planting corn in a piece of second year's ground, dropping himself, a grain in a place, three feet apart, with much care in drills about five feet wide, and his wife following and dropping a *single cow-pea* near every grain of corn—both neatly covered with the hoe. This led to a conversation, in which he stated this to have been his practice for thirty years—that he had never perceived any injury to the product of corn—that the single vine did not prove too heavy for the corn-stalk—and that his pea crop never missed, either in wet or dry seasons, making from half to two-thirds as many bushels of peas as of corn to the acre, when the peas were picked. He further stated that the vines were very little in the way in pulling fodder. Mr. McM. was a plain, laboring man, of excellent character for truth and honesty.

And now, Mr. Editor, with such an example, you will expect me to give the result of my own experiments in the next twenty years, while I can only make the shameful admission that I never tried the plan once, although having full confidence in Mr. McM., which only shows what slaves we are to habit, and how easily we yield to our ignorant, careless overseers, if they oppose what will give them a little extra trouble.

I have been making some experiments for the last three years, in sowing down peas with oats in February, and think the results of much interest, to those especially, who have worn lands to reclaim, but not enough open to let a portion lie wholly idle. My wish is to make these experiments known, as a guide to others, but will defer it until that of the present year is fully closed.

The directions of T. H. S., "*how to make a wheat-house*," in your August number, have also revived some old reminiscences on that subject.

Between 45 and 50 years ago very nearly the same plan of constructing a house to sun wheat, was used at *Rockcell* farm near your village, and continued for many years with entire success. The only difference I remember in making it was, that it was covered with a hip-roof instead of a gable, and of course the north wall

was 12 or 18 inches higher than that on the south side, and the roof was rolled off *end-ways*, instead of *side-ways*, on two plates or ways, of like elevation.

But "T. H. S." omits one particular in the process of sunning, that I know to be important to drive away or destroy weevil in wheat. It is to put up the wheat in this sun-house *in the chaff*, and only withdraw it as you wish to have it ground; until the weather becomes cold.

The process of sunning will be found most effectual if the roof is not opened earlier than 9 a. m., and again replaced by 3 o'clock, p. m., and then, only in very clear hot weather. During these hours, it should be often and well stirred up from the bottom. The hotter it is closed up, and more neatly the cover or roof is fitted on to exclude both air and light, the more certain will it prove effectual in clearing out weevil.

If any of the old agriculturists of that day are still left in your neighborhood, they can tell you how eagerly the wheat raised at *Rockcell* was sought after for seed-wheat, on account of its soundness, as well as purity. W.

Tallahassee, 27th August, 1855.

The Culture of Corn.

MR. EDITOR:—I notice in the May number of 1855, a piece on the culture of corn, signed W. W. Gilmer. He says, on rich bottom land corn will do four feet by 15 inches, two stalks. That looks too thick; will it do? I had thought that I cultivate as good bottom land as Mr. any body; but I only plant 4½ feet by 18 inches, one stalk; that will make 50 bushels or the rise of good corn. A SMALL PLANTER.

REMARKS—What say you, corn planters? We are decidedly in favor of thin planting. See an article selected on thin planting, in another column.—ED.

Cultivating too Much Land.

"The farmers generally attempt to cultivate too much land. The disadvantages arising from this cause, are many and obvious. It is no exaggeration to say, that the lands cultivated in the country are capable, under a high state of cultivation, of producing twice as much as they now produce."

When will the farmers of the South fully appreciate this truth? There is no one thing contributes so much to retard our Agriculture, as the folly of cultivating too much land.

In the first place no farmer should think of managing 80 or 100 acres of land with one or two hands. It is bad economy to do so; nothing can be expected from it but poverty—poverty of both land and purse. How much better it would be to cultivate half the number of acres, or less, and do it well. It costs just as much to plow an acre that will yield 10

bushels of corn, as one that will yield 50 or a 100 bushels. The difference in hoeing would be the same. It will require the same amount of fencing in the one case as in the other, and the same tax will have to be paid on each.—Why not, therefore, plow less, and plow deeper? why not cultivate less land and manure more? Farmers, many of them, appear to forget that they have a good productive farm just underneath the one they are cultivating, equally and perhaps much more productive than the one on the surface.

Turn up this farm, then, and use a deep sub-soil plow—expose it to the action of the sun and frost, and thereby double your crop.

But the surface farm—if there are any scruples about disturbing the one immediately underneath—may be greatly increased in productiveness by properly manuring it. Let a portion of spring work be devoted to carting out manure on the land that is to be cultivated.—Be assured that no labor will pay better. If any one has doubts on the subject, let him try an acre of thin land without and another with manure. And if he desires to be still more *utilitarian* in his investigations, let him deduct the cost of the manure from the value of increased crop, and it will be found that it is much better to manure one acre well than cultivate two without manure.

But let him try the experiment of both plowing deep, and at the same time manuring well, and he will forever abandon the idea of cultivating more land than he can cultivate *well*.

Farmers! think of these things; do more—*practice* them, and our word for it, you will never have occasion to regret that you did not cultivate more land.—*Laurensville Herald*.

FOUNDER IN HORSES.—I send you a recipe for founder in horses, which I have never seen in print. I have used and recommended it for fifteen years, and so far as my experience goes it is a *sure and speedy remedy*. Take a tablespoonful of pulverized alum, pull the horse's tongue out of his mouth as far as possible and throw the alum down his throat; let go of his tongue and hold up his head until he swallows; in 6 hours time (no matter how bad the founder) he will be fit for moderate service. I have seen this remedy tested so often with perfect success, that I would not make five dollars difference in a horse foundered, (if done recently,) and one that was not.

E. L. PERHAM,
Country Gentleman.

Albany, Oregon, Territory.

Peas and Sweet Potatoes for Fattening Hogs.—Mr. Nathan Winslow of Perquimous county, fattens hogs for slaughter and sale, as well as for his own consumption almost entirely on peas and sweet potatoes. From the 1st to the 15th of September, the hogs turned on a pea field. At the same time, a small portion of the sweet potato ground is fenced off. The woodland is close at hand, and the hogs are turned therein every day. This is done because he deems it better for the health of the hogs. Every night, alternately, the hogs are turned into the pea fields and the

potatoes—new portions of the latter being brought in as the first enclosed are exhausted, thus kept on peas and potatoes alone (for he supposed they get very little from the wood.) The hogs become very fat. For change of food, and late in the fattening, swill is added to the food, made of turnips, boiled with a little corn meal, and seasoned with salt.—Mr. Winslow is confident that the corn consumed during the whole time of fattening does not exceed the average of a peck for each hog; therefore, the fattening is due, in a very slight degree, to corn, and almost entirely to the peas and potatoes. Peas alone will fatten very considerably, but not enough to make good pork. But with potatoes, the hogs are not only made very fat, but their fat is even more firm and white than of hogs fattened on corn. After cold weather requires that potatoes should be dug, they are boiled before being fed to the hogs. Mr. Winslow is a very large successful raiser of hogs, and seller of pork. I learn from others that his pork, fattened as above stated, is deemed the best in the markets.—*Southern Planter*.

Fleas, Bedbugs, Etc.—A writer in the *Gardener's Chronicle* recommends the use of oil of wormwood to keep off the insects above named. Put a few drops on a handkerchief or a piece of folded muslin, and put in the bed haunted by the enemy. Neither of these tribes can bear wormwood, and the hint is specially commended to travellers who are liable to fall among the tappers of blood.

Salt for Horses.—A person who kept sixteen horses, made the following experiments with seven of them, which had been accustomed to eat salt with their feed:

Lumps of rock salt were laid in their mangers. These lumps, previously weighed, were examined regularly, to ascertain what quantity, weekly, had been consumed; and it was repeatedly found that whenever these horses were fed on hay or corn, they consumed only two and a half or three ounces per day, and when they were fed with new hay, they took six ounces per day. This fact should convince us of the expediency of permitting our cattle the free use of salt at all times; and it cannot be given in so convenient a form as rock salt, it being much more palatable than the other in a refined state, and by far cheaper. A good lump should always be kept in a box by the side of the animal, without fear that it will ever be taken to excess.—*Cultivator*.

Common Salt, a Remedy for Worms and Insects.

Professor Mapes states that common salt applied to the soil will do away with every grub, wire worm, or other lesser insects, so destructive of corn and other vegetables.

He applies it as a top dressing in the proportion of about six bushels to the acre. He says: "I apply that quantity every year to every acre of my land; and since adopting this practice, I have never lost a plant by grubs. My neighbors, who are afraid to try salt, continue to lose theirs and are compelled to buy my cabbage and other plants, to reset their beds."

Its value as a fertilizer is also worthy of consideration. It is composed of chlorine and soda, and these ingredients are defective in many soils. It also has the property of attracting and retaining moisture, as well as ammonia and other gases which add to the fertility of the soil. Our farmers can easily test it in a small way by procuring the *refuse salt* of packing houses; or it will not be a very expensive experiment to procure even fresh salt for the purpose.

Cooking and Digestion.

A mixed diet of bread, meat and vegetables, is better than any of the three alone; meat satisfies the appetite more completely and for a longer time than either of the other two; and, if a choice must be made between bread and vegetables, the bread should be chosen. Most kinds of game are easy of digestion. Roast beef and mutton are the most easy of digestion of all butcher-meats. It is a fact worth remembering, that roasting and broiling are the modes of cooking meat which best suit the stomach; this is proved by a comparison of the time required for the digestion of different sorts of food. Thus, beef or mutton roasted or broiled, rather underdone, are digested in three hours—

HOURS.

Pork, broiled.....	3½
Salt pork, broiled.....	4½
Pork, roasted.....	5½
Salt beef, cold, boiled.....	4½
Soft eggs.....	1 to 3
Hard boiled, or fried eggs.....	1½
Venison, broiled.....	1½
Veal, broiled.....	4
Veal, fried.....	4½
Heart, fried.....	4
Rice.....	1
Milk, boiled.....	2
Bread.....	3½

Fruit and vegetables require from two to four hours, according to quality and mode of cooking. Potatoes roasted and baked, and raw cabbages, are digested in two hours and a half; but boiled potatoes need another hour, and boiled cabbage, with vinegar, four hours and a half.

Some one having stated that the best way to preserve apples from rotting, was to pack them in salt, the editor of the Albany Knickerbocker tried the experiment. He says they have kept for three years, and would keep eternally, if they waited for him to eat them. The saline particles so mix with the apples, that you can't eat one of them without fancying you are chewing a piece of Lot's wife!

From the Ohio Cultivator.

Preserving Winter Apples---Orchard Management.

The result of twenty years' experience in Keeping apples may all be summed up in a few words, viz:—Keeping them dry, cool, and entirely shielded from the external air. After trying numerous experiments, I have finally adopted the following method as being the

cheapest and most expeditious:

I commence gathering winter fruit about the first of 10th mo., (October,) and finish if possible by the 20th of the same; generally commencing with Raritan Sweet Scallop Gilliflower and Seek-no-further, as these kind are apt to fall unless early picked—leaving those kinds least affected by early frost, and which are most tenacious of the parent stem till the last. Hard frosts are injurious to apples for late keeping. After the dew is off and the apples become dry in the morning, I commence picking, with the hand, and put them immediately and carefully into *well made* flour barrels, or barrels made expressly for that purpose—(they should be *air tight*)—head them up, lay them down on their sides, and when done gathering, wheel them to an out house or open shed where I let them remain until severe weather sets in, when they are taken into the cellar and remain undisturbed till wanted for the market.

It would be better to take them under shelter each day as they are picked, to prevent the sun from shining on the barrels; for, as I said before, the whole secret of preserving apples is in keeping them as *dry* and *cool* as possible without freezing. Apples should be picked only in dry weather. I have a cellar expressly fitted up for keeping apples, as it will not do for the cellar to be warm enough to keep other vegetables. It must be well ventilated. I leave my cellar windows open through the winter, unless in very severe weather; and when warm weather approaches, I close them through the day and open them at night. When the air is warmer outside, than in the cellar, I keep all closed up tight; and *vice versa*.

I never repack or open my apples, for in so doing it lets in a new agent of decomposition; the air that is fixed in the barrels become in a great measure deprived of its decomposing properties.

Having a scanty supply of barrels last fall at gathering time, I had a lot of old-salt barrels recoopered, making them nearly air tight. Into a part of these I put Wine Saps. On opening them late in the spring, I found they had kept one hundred per cent. better than the same variety that were put in other barrels, which I attribute to saline influences.

My friend, Dr. Potter, of Eden Delaware county, showed me late in the spring, apples of the variety called Peck's Pleasant, or small Greening, which he had kept in barrels in his ice house. They were apparently as hard and sound as when plucked from the tree. You are aware that this variety ripens about mid-winter.

Among the fifty or sixty kinds of winter apples I have fruiting, I find the May and Red Russet to be the best keepers. The latter I have kept through two winters and sold them in your market the second spring.

I have at different times tried the plan for keeping apples recommended by the late Noah Webster, to wit: Packing them in close barrels in alternate layers of kiln-dried sand. This is the best method for keeping apples late I have ever tried. But it is attended with too much

labor and inconvenience to be profitable. In this manner I have kept the Westfield, Seek-no-farther and Scallop Gilliflower, sound and fair through the summer.

A very great error in manging apples, used to be, and still practiced by many fruit growers, that of putting apples in bins, or on garret floors to go through the "sweating process," leaving them until they become shrivelled before putting them away in their winter quaters. Thus the apple loses its flavor as well as its vitality; for the aroma that escapes from the apple by being thus exposed to the warm atmosphere is nothing less than minute particles of the apple itself. I have observed that late keeping apples as a general thing, have thicker rinds than those that mature earlier. This is peculiarly the case with the May Apple and Roxbury Busset. If I am correct in this observation, it is a strong argument in favor of close keeping; for the rind serves as a protection against the escape of the aroma, of the apple, and consequently against the effects of the atmosphere. There is no apple with which I am acquainted, that emits, a greater odor than the Summer Queen; and none more frail.

I think you are mistaken about there being anything peculiar in the adaptedness of my soil for apples. It differs but little from the soil of other orchards in the neighborhood, yet I have been more successful in keeping the same varieties than my neighbors, which I attribute solely to greater care in the management of them. The soil is what I suppose would be called gravelly loam.

I avoid heavy pruning, which I think is not only injurious to the tree, but deleterious to the fruit. It is true that the fruit is larger and fairer. But large apples are not the best keepers. Besides, frequently cutting off large portions of the top of the tree sours its juices, and eventually the tree becomes diseased and dies. I am also opposed to the frequent plowing of an orchard. Breaking the roots of the tree certainly can be of no advantage; besides it exhausts the soil and leaves it heavy and dead. The better way would be to plant the trees on virgin soil, when the timber had been deadened and felled, leaving it to gradual decay, only clearing away space enough for each tree. Plant every alternate row with peach, and when they intrude upon the growth of the apple trees cut them away. I say deadened, because it is injurious to lands—especially to clay soils—to cut the green timber all off at once. The transition is too great and sudden from shade to sunlight; and so many green roots full of sap left to sudden decay beneath the summer's sun sours the ground, and must prove more or less hurtful to the fruit trees.

I have tried various kinds of dressings for the roots of apple trees, and find leached ashes, or lime siftings and old lime mortar that has partially lost its strength, such as old plastering from houses mixed with chip manure, shavings, or saw-dust, to be the best. And when the land is exhausted by over-tillage, or is naturally poor, a liberal coating of stable manure spread over the whole surface of the ground, is indispensable to the health and growth of the

trees. When trees are treated in this manner no moss will collect upon them however old they may be. Young trees should be frequently washed with lye, not so strong as to corrode. I have known trees destroyed by the use of strong lye. This, I think, is better than white-wash. I have noticed that tan bark has been recommended in some agricultural papers as a good dressing for apple trees. I have not tried it, and cannot, therefore, speak of its merits or demerits from experience. My opinion, however, is that if it is used it should be mixed with wood ashes to neutralize the acid that it contains, which might be hurtful to the tree. Different soils, I am aware, require the treatment varied. Mine is nearly destitute of lime. Where lime prevails, a free use of sand should be used in the dressing. And where clay or sand predominate lime or ashes should be as freely used.

Yours truly, A. L. BENEDICT.
Peru, Morrow County, Ohio, June 21, 1854.



The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. VI., No. 10, : : : : October, 1855.

✍ S. G. EARLE, Esq., Editor of the "Gazette and Advocate," has consented to act as Agent for the Farmer and Planter.

✍ JOSEPH COX, Esq., of Calhoun, S. C., is an authorized Agent for the Farmer and Planter.

✍ Mr. W. J. DUFFIE, of Newberry, is an agent for the Farmer and Planter.

The Farmer and Planter.

Many of our friends are aware, no doubt, and if they are not, *we* are, and deem it proper to say to them, now, that an agricultural paper is, in all probability, like to be better sustained than ever heretofore, an effort will be made to break us down by those that would, no doubt, have seen the agricultural and kindred interests of the State *sunk* before they would have made the exertions we have done for near 6 years to sustain and advance it, and *for the compensation we have received*. From all such we have no favors to ask—it is to our friends, both in and out of the State, we address ourself—it is to them we appeal for the decision of our ease. If you think our cause a good one, friends and patrons of the Farmer and Planter, sustain us—if not, then take up some other more worthy, more deserving. We are not disposed to be drummed out of the field, *nor shall it be done* with our present force to sus-

tain us. How shall we hear from you? Will one or more friends at each Post Office, interest themselves in getting up a list of subscribers for our next volume. It is important for us to know in November, at furthest, whether we are to continue our publication or not.

State Agricultural Society.

We desire the attention of every reader of the Farmer and Planter to the Circular of the Executive Committee of the State Agricultural Society, which will be found in our present number; and in the words of the Committee, "we entreat every one to use his exertions to form District Societies—to become *himself* a life member of the State Agricultural Society, and to procure as many other life members as can possibly be obtained." The great importance of the objects set forth by the Committee, surely must enlist the good will and exertions of every one who feels the least concern in the advancement of agricultural interest of the State.

The Executive Board have, we understand—for we have had no list sent us—appointed in each District a Committee of gentlemen to procure subscribers to the Society as life or yearly members; and we see that our old friends who compose the Committee for Abbeville District are pursuing the right course to accomplish their object, in canvassing the District and attending public meetings and barbecues gotten up by the spirited citizens at different points, where they have shows of agricultural implements and machinery, plowing matches, &c., &c., all calculated to get up the right spirit in the good cause. Why cannot all other Districts follow the noble example of good old Abbeville? Will they not do it? We trust all will, and that the respective Committees will come up to our November meeting with lists that will ensure the accomplishment of the great objects in view, and gladden the heart of every true Carolinian.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society.

According to the 7th article of the Constitution, the Executive Committee have the appointing of this officer. From some cause which we are not able to state, this was not done at the late meeting of the Committee. We suppose it will be in time to make the appointment at the November meeting of the Society, in Columbia. The name of a prominent gentleman, residing at Anderson, has been suggested to us as a proper person to fill this appointment, and we are quite sure that none more competent or deserving could be selected. We are not prepared to say, however, that he will suffer his name used in this connexion. The 8th article makes it the duty of the Secretary, among others, to edit an agricultural paper; and this brings us to speak of an editorial in the *South Carolinian* of late date, in which the worthy Editor takes the *California Farmer* as his text, and which we give below as one of the developments predicted in our last. We have not yet had the pleasure of seeing the *California Farmer*, but conclude from the remarks of the Editor of the *Carolinian*, it must be something unique in its

line, (and, indeed, ought to be, taking *price* into consideration,) for he says, "If we only had such a paper established in South Carolina, we might hope to see agricultural information generally disseminated." Very like, but *who* is to *edit* and who publish at *one* dollar a year? It must, of course, be published in Columbia, for, as the organ of the Society, no other place would do. But why so, we would ask? Can it be done better in Columbia than elsewhere? Is it absolutely necessary that the proceedings of the Society or of the Executive Committee should go to the people in hot-cake-haste? Are the organs of the Societies of Georgia, Alabama or other States that we might name, invariably published at the place of the annual meetings of the Society? We think not, and yet the Societies are flourishing, and the members in no want of early information of their proceedings. But it seems the "project to establish a journal under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society will be carried out," as *hoped* by the Editor of the *Carolinian*. Why really, Doctor, this is demanding the Lion's share. The annual Fairs of the Society have been granted you—next you must have the organ under the auspices of the Society—what next? of course, two to two and a half dollars per day Hotel fare; but no odds, the Committee will, no doubt, do what they believe to be right, without sectional predilections or regard to the "hopes" of any one.

THE CALIFORNIA FARMER.—"A friend has sent us a copy of this distant brother, who hails from Sacramento City, *California*. It is a well-filled quarto, and is published weekly, at six dollars. If we only had such a paper established in South Carolina, we might hope to see Agricultural information generally disseminated. We, however, hope that the project to establish a journal in this city, under the auspices of the State Agricultural Society, will be carried out, and that the Executive Committee will issue such a paper as will prove a useful journal to the industrial classes of our State. If it were agreed upon at the November meeting, the paper could be put under headway, by January next, and in our opinion, it would prove the most effective auxiliary which the Society could have."—*S. Carolinian*.

Original Communications.

Our friends will be pleased to find that our list of Contributors are mouthily on the increase. In addition to our old and well- tried veterans, several new recruits have of late come to them, and we give them a most sincere welcome to a place in our columns. And whilst on this subject, we will take the occasion to say that we much regret having been recently compelled to reject some communications from old and respected subscribers, for the reason that they treat of subjects incompatible with the objects of our paper. As to the Know Nothings, we presume our readers have heard as much about them as they desired to hear. We know nothing about them, and whether they originated in "Venice" or elsewhere," is not very material. And as to the subject of our friends may find papers enough in which they can do this to their heart's content. They will

therefore, excuse without being displeased with us, we hope, for the course we have pursued and cannot depart from.

Errata.

On page 194, in the last number, our Compositor has stuck on a tail, "with the loss of but little time," to friend DUDLEY's article that does not legitimately belong to it. It is the property of the editorial remarks on roads just below.

Answers to Enquiries.

J. M., Curleton's Store—THE PRICE OF SUFFOLK PIGS? In Mr. MORTON's advertisement in our back numbers, he says: "Suffolk Pigs, 3 to 5 months old, \$30 per pair; or delivered to any part of the United States, free of charge, for \$40." Address James Morton & Son, West Needham, Mass. We have written you.—ED

G. W. B., New York—THE NAMES OF PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES OF ALL THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES IN OUR STATE?—Will the Secretaries of the different Societies send us the names of their Societies and Officers?

The Pendleton Farmers' Society.

The annual Meeting and Fair of this Society will take place on the 2nd Thursday and day following of October. Committees to whom subjects have been assigned, are expected to come up prepared to make their respective reports. The citizens, generally, and especially the ladies, are invited to attend. The President will deliver an address, and, it is to be hoped, many interesting reports read at the anniversary on the first day.

Advertisements.

The attention of our readers is called to our advertising sheet, where they will find much worth recollecting until such time as they may desire to procure the works and articles advertised.

The Year-book of Agriculture.

This is a forthcoming work, no doubt of great merit, and must be a most acceptable volume to every one interested in the cultivation of the soil or the diffusion of useful knowledge.

R. Sinclair & Co.

A notice of this advertisement was crowded out of our last number. We are ordering machinery, implements and seed from this establishment weekly for our friends, all of whom are well pleased with their purchases. Shall be pleased to continue to send up orders.

J. Montgomery & Brothers.

We have ordered several *Fans* from Messrs. M. and can pronounce them *superior* to anything of the kind we have ever seen or used. Wheat needs no screening at the mill after passing through this searching Machine.

Henderson and Chisolm---Cotton Gins.

You that want new Gins should lose no time in sending up your orders to these Gen-

tlemen, for on trial now of ten seasons, we know their Gins to be superior. We have one on hand, which can be purchased on the most reasonable terms.

John Simpson---Home Made Machinery.

Here is a new candidate for your patronage and although we have not seen any of his work, we have no doubt it is worth your attention. Every state has some pride in encouraging home industry—in patronizing her own mechanics, in preference to others.

J. Hunter.

Recollect the Iron Plow-Stock, a man deserves to be put on the antiquarian list if found with any other, if he is able to buy one of these.

Charleston Advertisements.

Be sure if you want to buy goods, go to the men that advertise—they will sell you better bargains than the close listed non-advertising class.

Stoves.

Cold weather is coming, and fire wood is high even at cutting and hauling—therefore don't forget friend Westfield's Stoves—one either for the parlor or cooking will save you in a short time, its price in fuel.

"Tabitha Tiptop"

Is out in answer to "Ruth Rattle," we much regret, too late for our present number. You shall have a hearing in our next, Tabitha.

We have several other communications that are crowded out. If our friends would send in their pieces by the 10th of the month, it would insure their publication in the next number, which is half made up of such matter as we may have on hand by that time.

SCRATCHES.—A correspondent of the *Prairie Farmer* gives the following recipe for cure of the scratches:—Soak and wash clean with hot *strong* soap suds, then with a hot shovel bathe in an ointment made by skinning one-quarter pound of sulphur in a pint of raccoon's, goose, or pig's-foot oil, or some other soft grease. I have known many other and more costly remedies applied, but none of them with such *infallible* success.

For the Farmer and Planter.

"Alabama Black Oats" &c.

DEAR MAJOR SEABORN:—Upon forwarding my annual subscription, I feel inclined to comply with your request, by offering a mite to the *Farmer and Planter*. I know that in farming, as in merchandising and other business, some men strive for the profits, while others are content to keep the business going; and this makes the great difference in the success of men. Some fix the goal of their ambition at one point, and some at another; some higher, and some lower.

Now because this is like to be a good crop year, no farmer should relax his energies, and thereby fall into bad habits; for an abundant crop sold at low prices, will not, perhaps, pay an equal profit to a small crop sold for a high price. Therefore, let us all use the same economy that we did when corn was one dollar per bushel.

And now is a good time to put in Rye or Barley for winter pasturage, and October will do well for Clover, Herds-grass, Orchard-grass, or Timothy. All these are well adapted to this latitude, and are profitable. Every person has to keep horses and cows if they do not raise them for market, and therefore, they ought to sow Barley or Clover to feed them. And I think the most economical plan is, to cut the crop when green, and feed in stables or a well shaded lot.* A single acre of land, well set with Barley or Clover, will nearly keep two animals the whole spring, which is always a scarce season of the year to those who live in a village or town.

And now I must tell you of a new and very superior kind of oats, which I got from Gordon County, Ga., last winter. They call them the "Alabama Black Oats." They are as black as an "African," and heavy, weighing forty pounds to the bushel, (U. S. seal). The chaff, however, is very thin and light; they are the easiest cleaned of any grain that I have seen. They may be sowed in fall or winter; mine was sowed in January, about one bushel per acre, (as seed was scarce,) I had only one bushel and three-fourths, and at harvest the freshet destroyed about one-fifth of the crop, and from what remained, I have threshed out and cleaned thirty bushels.

I intend to send you some to Anderson C. H., by the Railroad.

The communications of "Broomsedge" are always read with interest; but his plan for making corn will not do on alluvial river bottom, where weeds and grass spring up in a night. And few men that have been used to the plow-handles, will adopt the cultivator as the principal plow for tilling a crop, unless he has a better one than I have yet seen.

Yours truly, H. M. EARLE.

Greenville, S. C., September 5th, 1855.

P. S.—The corn crop was cultivated easier this season than I ever found it, except the summer of 1830, which was just such a year as this is like to be.

*This is usually called soiling.

Sneeze Weed.

The following communication on Sneeze Weed, came to hand some time since, and, with our "remarks" on the same, were mislaid, and hence its late appearance.—ED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER AND PLANTER
—Dear Sir:—In the May number of your valuable paper, which fell into my hands by the politeness of a friend, I noticed the article on "Sneeze Weed," and also your remarks in connection with it. You assert very truly that "Sneeze Weed" is a "deadly poison to stock," as farmers in many sections of the coun-

try could bear witness. But the only thing you suggested in regard to the matter, was, that it "should be extirpated from every farm." Now where this plant is indigenous to the soil, as it is in this neighborhood, the work of extirpation would be almost impossible, for it grows not only in our cultivated fields and enclosed pastures, but also in old sedge-fields, along the road-side, and even in glady places in the woods. Hence no farmer, so far as my knowledge extends, has ever raised the energy to undertake its extirpation further than to keep it out of his horse-lot, or out of lots sown down in small grain for grazing purposes. Indeed, although farmers, generally, who live where this plant flourishes, are acquainted with its poisonous effects on stock; yet many of them do not interfere with it at all, except where it happens to show itself among the corn or cotton. So, as but few farmers are likely to have the courage to extirpate this weed, you will allow me to suggest an antidote for its poisonous effects on stock, and especially on horses. As soon as it is ascertained that the horse is sick from it, drench him with a pint of melted hog's lard; if this does not give relief, repeat the drench every 20 or 25 minutes for three or four, or even more times. If this is done in time, it, together with copious bleeding from the mouth, will usually effect a cure. I have known complete success to be attained by the use of lard alone. I have, also, seen sheep relieved by administering repeated drenches of lard in small quantities. Cows rarely ever eat of this weed, but it is presumable that the same remedy would be good in such an event. The poisonous effect of this weed on stock, is, no doubt, very powerful, indeed; and is said to be quick or slow in its results, according to the quantity eaten. Hence it is the safest to commence as soon as possible in administering relief; for where a large quantity is eaten by the animal, it seldom recovers without an immediate antidote.

My only object in penning these hasty lines, is, the benefiting of your readers. If you think them worthy of insertion in your paper, you are at liberty to use them—if they are without merit, why just lay them aside, for the writing of them has consumed only a few minutes of the leisure time of a FARMER.

Rehoboth P. O., Edgefield Dist., June 26, 1855.

REMARKS.—"Farmer" will accept our thanks for his remarks on, and remedy for "Sneeze Weed." Although not a subscriber, he has amply compensated us and our subscribers for reading his friend's paper. We were not aware that the Sneeze Weed was so common and abundant as stated by our correspondent. We had seen it growing but rarely, and then, as appeared to us, in "patches" only; and hence we had concluded it might, without great labor, be extirpated from every farm.—ED.

For the Farmer and Planter.

Correction.

MR. EDITOR—Dear Sir:—In commenting on my communication in your September number, you have fallen into an error as to its purport, which you will allow me to correct:

You say that "whether I should plant less and manure more, depends altogether upon the degree of manuring heretofore given my corn. It may be that the land has been manured to its *highest productive capacity*, and if so, it will not do," &c., &c. By referring to my article, you will perceive that I stated at the outset, that "it required all of my cotton seed and compost of every description, applied to my corn lands exclusively, and, that too, *only heavy enough to make a tolerable fair yield*, to supply my plantation with provisions." If I had been applying my manure heavy enough for the land to have attained its "highest productive capacity," there would have been no necessity for me to have troubled you with the article. Perhaps I should have been more explicit, and instead of saying that the yield, according to my present system of manuring, was tolerably fair—that it amounted to twenty or twenty-five bushels.

The questions then which I propounded, cannot be misunderstood, and (assuming the same basis for a proper calculation given in my original article, viz: a plantation on which there are twenty-five hands—eleven of them plow-men—and two hundred and fifty acres of cotton, and one hundred of corn planted,) are, how much more cotton will these twenty-five hands be able to tend by cultivating only half as much of corn, (fifty acres,) and can as much corn be made off of these fifty acres by this treatment (i. e.) by double manuring; and, in addition, applying as much guano as this extra cotton will buy, as was off of the hundred under the old plan.

As to your suggestion that it "might be best to set the surplus hands directly to making manure instead of cotton to buy it;" you will bear in mind that in doing so, they would be thrown on their own resources, as the other hands would be able to litter the stables, cow-pens, &c. Only a certain amount of manure, can, in my opinion, be made to advantage on a plantation. When you exceed that amount, what you gain in quantity you lose in quality.

Very respectfully, J. M. DANTZLER.
St. Matthews, Sept. 13, 1855.

REMARKS.—On referring to the article of our respected correspondent, as published in the September number, we find we *did* overlook an important fact, and that plainly enough stated. And now if he is certain that no more manure of equal quality can be made on the plantation than has been his yearly practice to make and apply, it alters the case materially—so much so as, in our opinion, to require a different course from that suggested by us to be pursued; but what that course should be, we would prefer leaving to the decision of more experienced planters. It seems to us, however, that there would be no great risk in the experiment of dropping 50 acres of corn, (as it is probable that the other 50 may be made to produce as much as the 100 has heretofore done,) and adding, say 25 of cotton. What say you, planters?—ED.

Never keep your cattle short; few farmers can afford it. If you starve them they will starve you.



Ladies' Department.

Medical--Gentle Hints to the Gentler Sex.

In the course of an able lecture on the Diseases of Women, recently delivered by Dr. Beilford, of New York, he gave these significant hints:

The lady who revels in luxury, and has around her, even to satiety, all the comforts and pleasure which opulence can secure, would surrender all these comforts to regain the health which, it too often happens, she has sacrificed by her own folly and imprudence! She once possessed a good constitution—she relied too strongly on that constitution—she became careless, entered into all the dissipations of society, infatuated and bewildered by the constant excitement of fashionable life—a devotee to pleasure, she is heedless of the first manifestations of disease; but the disease, like the silent night, progress—it brings with it a physical infirmity and moral anguish—her strength is declining—her mind weakened, and compelled by absolute suffering to withdraw from society, she finally invokes the aid of a physician. He investigates, with great care, her case, and finds that her disease is without remedy. She may, peradventure, be laboring under some organic affection which, if seen to in time, would have been perfectly manageable. Her days are numbered—and, instead of being the attraction and idol of the gay crowd, she now becomes the victim of the most distressing bodily suffering—suffering as agonizing that she is impatient to die—and, when her last hour is come, she breathes a prayer of thankfulness to Heaven that her agony is at an end! There is, gentleman, no fiction here; I am not presenting you an exaggerated picture—it is true in fact and in detail. I have been compelled on more than one occasion to say, when my opinion was requested; Madame, I can do nothing for your disease has made fearful progress—it is beyond the reach of science!"—These words fallen the ear of the afflicted patient with chilling and disastrous effect; they bring to her mind with vivid truth the painful reminiscences of her own indiscretion—indiscretion which is about to consign her to an early grave, and make desolate the hearts of those to whom she was united by ties of the closest affection.

Okra for Winter Soup.—Take a clean, tight cask, sprinkle a layer of fine Liverpool salt over the bottom; on this place a layer of okra pods, cut green from the bushes; now sprinkle another layer of salt, and then another layer of okra, and so on, until the cask is full. It will shriv-

el, but lose none of its peculiar soup juices. When wanted for soups, take it out, and cut it up, place it in the pot without salt, as the salt already in the okra will diffuse itself throughout the soup and make the seasoning about right. There is a method of saving tomatoes, but it is attended with much trouble; the safest plan is to make tomatoes into catsup. Then, we not only have the tomato, but the other ingredients to flavor the soup.—*Soil of the South.*

Advice to Young Housekeepers.—We do not know the origin of the following advice to young housekeepers, but it is excellent: "Be satisfied to commence on a small scale. It is too common for young housekeepers to begin where their mothers ended. Buy all that is necessary to work skillfully with; adorn your houses with all that will render it comfortable. Do not look at richer homes, and covet their costly furniture. If secret dissatisfaction is ready to spring up, go a step farther, and visit the homes of the poor and suffering; behold dark, cheerless apartments, insufficient clothing and absence of all the comforts and refinements of social life, and then return to your own with a joyous spirit. You will then be prepared to meet your husband with a grateful heart, and be ready to appreciate the toil and self-denial which he has endured in the business world to surround you with the delights of home; and you will be ready to co-operate cheerfully with him in so arranging your expense, that his mind will not be constantly harassed with fears lest his family expenditures may encroach upon public payments. Be independent; a young housekeeper never needed greater moral courage than she does now to resist the arrogance of fashion. Do not let the A's and B's decide what you must have, neither let them hold the strings of your purse. You know best what you can and ought to afford; then decide, with a strict integrity, according to your means. Let not the censure or the approval of the world ever tempt you to buy what you hardly think you can afford. It matters but little what people think, provided that you are true to your self and family."

Circular.

To the District Societies and Citizens of the State of South Carolina:—The undersigned, who were appointed an Executive Committee, at the recent Meeting of Delegates, from various portions of our State, to form a State Agricultural Society, would respectfully suggest to you the importance of such an object, and earnestly request of you to call on the citizens of your respective Districts to unite and form District Agricultural Societies, that shall co-operate with the State Society in collecting useful information and disseminating it among the people at large. We also propose to offer annually suitable premiums for the best managed farms; for the most approved breeds of stock; and for the implements of husbandry best adapted to our agriculture; also "for the mechanical, artistic and domestic productions of our citizens;" and we hope by the stimulus thus afforded, and the rivalry thus excited, to bring

about a gradual and steady improvement, not only in agricultural, but in all of the industrial pursuits of our State; and we trust that every citizen of South Carolina, from the humblest to the highest, will zealously enlist in so important and patriotic an undertaking.

To accomplish so laudable an object it is evident we must have the means, and those, too, of a permanent character. We propose, therefore, to raise, by individual subscription, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), and to petition our Legislature for a suitable amount of money, to be invested in stocks paying regular dividends, and to use annually only the income from such investment. To raise the individual subscription, it is proposed that citizens in the different Districts, who are disposed to join the State Agricultural Society, shall become life members upon the payment of twenty-five dollars (\$25) each, and that the different District Societies shall pay annually the sum of five dollars into the Treasury of the State Society. From these three sources we hope to raise abundant means. At the late Agricultural Meeting in Columbia, there were ninety Delegates who became life members, and raised, in a few minutes, over two thousand dollars (\$2,000); and we have every reason to believe that the citizens of the District of Richland and the town of Columbia, will raise a like amount; and that the Town Council will also make liberal donations to the Society, by providing the grounds and suitable accommodations for the exhibition of stock, implements of agriculture, and the product of the mechanic arts. With such bright prospects before us, we entreat every one to use his exertions to form District Societies, to become *himself* a life member of the State Agricultural Society, and to procure as many other life members as can possibly be obtained. Above all, we invite each District Society to send Delegates to the Agricultural Meeting that is to take place in Columbia on the Second Tuesday of November next; and we most earnestly request each member of the State Society to be punctual in his attendance—for it is not only by an interchange of feelings and opinions on the subject of agriculture that we can hope to give to it that importance to which it is so justly entitled, and to excite that laudable spirit of rivalry among our District Societies by which they will become honorable competitors in advancing the prosperity of their respective District, and the means of developing and increasing the agricultural resources of the whole State. We also propose, as soon as a permanent fund shall be provided, to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer to the State Society, who shall take charge of all of the reports and other communications from the District Societies, and publish all that shall be worthy of publication in a weekly or monthly agricultural journal, to be under the control and direction of the Executive Committee—which journal shall be sent gratuitously to each life member of the State Agricultural Society. Thus, you will perceive that the District and State Societies will be made to co-operate most harmoniously; the one in collecting information, and the other in publishing and diffusing

it. We, therefore, most earnestly appeal to you to aid us in carrying out our laudable purposes.

All of which is respectfully submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee.

A. P. CALHOUN,
E. G. PALMER,
J. U. ADAMS,
R. W. GIBBES,
O. M. DANTZLER,
R. J. GAGE,
A. G. SUMMER,

Executive Committee.

LIST OF PAYMENTS RECEIVED.

NAMES.	POST OFFICES	AMOUNT.
James Kilgore, Newberry C. H.,	S. C.,	\$1.
John Gavin, St. George,	"	1.
Col. F W Pickens, Edgefield C. H.,	"	2.
R B Cunningham, Liberty Hill, (vol 5)	"	1.
W C Cunningham, " " (vol. 5)	"	1.
Crayton Williams, " "	"	1.
L J Patterson, " "v (ol 5)	"	1.
A D Jones, " "	"	1.
T H Moffatt, Lewisville,	"	1.
Charles C. Porcher, Vance's Ferry,	"	1.
Dr E Flud, " "	"	1.
P C Kirk, " "	"	1.
R A McKelvey, Pineville,	"	1.
J J Cross, " "	"	1.
Maj J G Sykes, Columbia,	"	2.
Capt T J Robertson, "	"	1.
Capt J U Adams, "	"	1.
J C Bates, Esq., " "	"	1.
Wright Denly, Esq., " "	"	1.
A M Hunt, " "	"	1.
Maj T Davis, " (vol. 5.)	"	1.
A Rawlinson, " (vol. 4 and 5)	"	2.
S M Johnson, Tirza,	"	1
Wm. L. Wallace, Brighton, (vol 5)	"	1
J S Lorton, Pendleton,	"	1
R W Watson, Blackstocks,	"	1
H S Hammond, Warrenton,	"	1
T B Wadlington, Mt. Bethel,	"	7
Robt. Adams, Milton,	"	1
Capt. Ed. Cason, Bailey's Mills,	Ga.	4
Capt B T Mims, Edgefield c. h. (v. 5)	S. C.	1
F H Zahler, Blue House,	"	1
E M Gaillard, Vances Ferry, vol. 5,	"	1
H. F. Riekbourgh, "	"	1
Thos. Cox, Georgetown,	"	1
B. F. Morgan, Dacusville,	"	1
Col. J H Read, Georgetown,	"	5
(vol. 4 5 6 7 and 8)		
Dr. J. P. Miller, Poolsville,	"	2
A M Evans, " "	"	1
Wm M Shannon, Camden, (vol. 5)	"	1
Dr. J R Cook, Winchester,	Ga.	1
Rev. H F Porter, Abbeville, C. H. S. C.	"	1
B M Moore, Plaine, P. O.	"	1
Rev. G W Huckabee, Loundesville	"	1
Dr. D D Graves, Charleston,	"	1
Thos Crenshaw, Pendleton, (vol.)	"	1
Dr J S Palmer, Pineville,	"	2
Dr H C Miller, Pendleton,	"	1
W B Jennings, Sumterville, (vol. 5)	"	1
Joshua Acker, Belton,	"	2
Col W S Pickens, Newell,	"	1
R R Brooks, Friendfield, (vol. 4)	"	1

G W Gibson, Thompsons,	"	1
F Gibson, " "	"	1
Capt D Jenkins, Beaufort,	"	2
Capt J S Tyler, " "	"	1
D L Thompson, " "	"	1
Alex. Erskin, Huntsville, (vol. 3 & 4)	Ala.	2
John Clark, Gainsville,	Ga.	2
S Mays, Pendleton,	S. C.	2
John N Herndon, Whitmires,	"	5
Dr S J Bailly, 4 Mile Branch, (vol. 5)	"	1
J Pickle, Equality,	"	1
A P Watson, Slabtown,	"	1
John A Keels, Murrays Ferry,	"	1
J B Lesaner, Ridgeley,	Ala.	1
S Wild Vernon, Pleasant Mount,	Miss.	3
Jas. Jenkins, Brittons Neck, (vol. 5)	S. C.	1
J G. Kendrick, Ripley,	Miss.	2
Mrs. Irene Smith, Port Gibson v. 5, 6, 7,	Miss.	3
Col. B F Whitner, Tallahassee,	Fla.	1

THE GREAT SOUTHERN WEEKLY!

THE SPECTATOR:

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C.

A FAMILY JOURNAL OF LITERATURE AND NEWS
FOR SOUTHERN READERS.

THE South has too long been dependent upon the Northern cities for its periodical literature. The weekly newspapers of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, have swept like a flood over that part of the nation south of Mason and Dixon's Line, many of them carrying with them some of the prejudices of abolitionism; and inculcating, to a greater or less extent, doctrines injurious to southern institutions. This dependence of the mass of southern readers should be thrown off—and it is believed would have been long ago, if there had been facilities in the South for the publication of first class literary papers.

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The general plan of the paper is as follows: It has eight pages; three of which are filled with the best articles on Literature, Science and the Arts; one to the editor's comments upon passing themes; one to general news, foreign and domestic; one to the interests of the Farmer—[the information on this page will be mainly derived from the Agricultural Bureau of the the U. S. Patent Office]; one to a synopsis of the operations of the Departments of the Government; and one, during the winter, to a report of the proceedings of Congress; altogether making a plan which will be rigidly adhered to, and which is unequalled by any in the country, North or South.

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AUG. F. HARVEY,
Editor and Publisher,
Washington, D. C.

Oct., 1855.

[10—Itwo]

IMPROVED GINS, THRASHERS, FANS, &C.

THE undersigned has perfected several valuable improvements in the Cotton Gin, (some of which he has recently patented) and is now prepared to offer to the public, Gins possessing very superior advantages:

1. This Gin is so constructed that it will not choke, nor break its roll, nor spew over. It will roll while ever there is any cotton in the breast, or it may be filled and a quantity raked on the top, and it will not stop or spew over. Consequently any hand, *however inexperienced*, can attend it whilst its work is uniform and involves no loss of time.

2. The quality of the lint is superior to that of any other gin. Those wishing it, can have the advantage of his *patented improvement for ginning Sea Island Cotton*, which completely protects the fibre from the slightest injury.

3. It is so constructed as *entirely to exclude rats from the brush wheel*, thus dispensing with the necessity of removing the brush wheel whilst the gin is idle. The importance of this improvement every ginner will appreciate.

4. The action of his Gin is so uniform and so free from the ordinary obstacles to regular work, that he will warrant one of his 45 saw Gins to discharge from 6 to 8 bales per day, with proper attention and power; and with ordinary good attention, it may be warranted to give from 4 to 6 bales per day.

He also manufactures very superior

THRASHERS AND FANS,

in the construction of which he has introduced many valuable improvements, which place them *ahead of those of any other factory*, as those will testify who have them in use.

He would also call the attention of Mill-owners to his unrivalled **SMUT MACHINES**, which he manufactures on a new principle, and which he will warrant to clean the wheat of *every particle of rat dung*, and of every foreign matter which is not harder than the grain. He will test it by mixing the wheat half and half with rat dung, and if it does not remove every particle of the latter, the machine shall go for nothing. This is doing what no other machine pretends to do!

His machinery is driven by steam, and the establishment is furnished with every facility for manufacturing the most finished work.

Orders are respectfully solicited: they will receive prompt attention, and the work be packed and forwarded without delay.

Address to *Wallace or Louisville P. O.*, Chester District, S. C.

JOHN SIMPSON.

October, 1855.

[10—tf]

TO FARMERS

AND

ALL OTHERS INTERESTED IN AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, &C.

WILL BE PUBLISHED, IN OCT., 1855,

THE YEAR BOOK OF AGRICULTURE;

OR,

THE ANNUAL OF PROGRESS AND DISCOVERY, FOR 1855.

Exhibiting the most important Discoveries and Improvements in Agricultural Mechanics, Agricultural and Horticultural Botany, Agricultural and Economic Geology, Agricultural Zoology, Meteorology, etc. Together with Statistics of American Growth and Production, a list of recent Agricultural Publications, Agricultural Patents, with Notes by the Editor, on the progress of American and Foreign Agriculture, for the year 1855.

BY DAVID A. WELLS, A. M.

Member of the Boston Society of Natural History, formerly Chemist to the Ohio State Board of Agriculture; Editor of the Annual of Scientific Discovery, Familiar Science, &c., &c.,

It is evident that a publication of this character, giving a complete and condensed view of the progress of every department of Agricultural Science, free from technical and unnecessarily scientific descriptions, and systematically arranged so as to present at one view all recent Agricultural Facts, Discoveries, Theories and Applications, must be a most acceptable volume to every one interested in the cultivation of the soil, or the diffusion of useful knowledge.

THE "YEAR BOOK OF AGRICULTURE" will be published in a handsome octavo volume, comprising upwards of 300 pages, and will contain an elegant Steel Portrait of a distinguished Agriculturist, together with fine Illustrations of New Agricultural Machines, Stock, Fruit, &c., together with a series of beautifully colored Engravings.

Although the publication of this work will be attended with very heavy expenses, it will be issued at the low price of \$1.50, thereby enabling every FARMER and PLANTER to possess a copy.

On receipt of the published price it will be sent free per mail, to any part of the United States. As the sale will be very large, all orders should be sent in immediately.

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Address,

CHILDS & PETERSON,
124 Arch St., Philadelphia.

AGENTS wanted to sell the above valuable work.

October, 1855,

[10—tf]

JOB PRINTING

DONE AT THE

Farmer and Planter Office,